VII

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

CRETARIAT
RARY.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN ASSAM

FOR THE YEAR

1890-91.

By J. WILLSON, Esq., M.A.,
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, ASSAM.

SHILLONG:
PRINTED AT THE ASSAM SECRETARIAT PRINTING OFFICE.
1891.

Price One Rupee.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

SECTION I.
GENERAL SUMMARY.

	Page.	Para.
Class of instruction	1	1
Progress of public institutions	2	2
District comparison of schools and pupils	*ib.*	3
Percentage of pupils in public schools on children of a schoolgoing age	4	4
Summary of public schools	5	5
Gross expenditure	6	6
Provincial budget and expenditure	7	7
Local budgets and expenditure...	*ib.*	8
Comparison of expenditure	8	9
Direct expenditure...	9	10
Fee receipts in Government schools	10	11
Municipal expenditure on schools	*ib.*	12

SECTION I*A*.
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION.

Notes on the recommendations of the Education Commission ...	11	13-14

SECTION II.
CONTROLLING AGENCIES.

Inspection by each Deputy and Sub-Inspector	12	15-16
Details of inspections	14	17
Inspection by the Director	*ib.*	18

SECTION III.
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.—*Nil.*

SECTION IV.
SCHOOL EDUCATION, GENERAL.

(A) *Secondary Schools.*

Comparison of secondary schools	15	19
Statistics of high schools in each district	16	20
Classification of pupils in high schools according to religion ...	18	21
Stage of instruction of pupils in high schools	*ib.*	22
Comparison of the Entrance Examination for the last two years ...	*ib.*	23
School accommodation	*ib.*	24
Boarding houses	19	25
Present position of pupils who withdrew from the first classes of high schools	*ib.*	26
Number of Assam students reading in Bengal Colleges and the number that passed the University Examinations	*ib.*	27
Statistics of boys' middle English schools	*ib.*	28
Classification of pupils in boys' middle English schools according to religion	20	29
Stage of instruction	*ib.*	30
Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination from middle English schools	*ib.*	31
Statistics of boys' middle Vernacular schools	21	32
Classification of pupils in boys' middle schools according to religion ..	22	33
Stage of instruction	*ib.*	34
Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination for boys' middle Vernacular schools	*ib.*	35
Comparison of boys' primary schools for the last two years ...	23	36
Statistics of boys' upper primary schools	24	37
Result of the Upper Primary Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination for boys' schools	25	38
Statistics of boys' lower primary schools	*ib.*	39
Classification of pupils in boys' upper and lower primary schools according to religion	28	40
Stage of instruction of boys' upper and lower primary schools ...	*ib.*	41
Lower Primary Examination for boys' schools	29	42

SECTION V.

SCHOOL EDUCATION, SPECIAL.

	Page.	Para.
Denomination	29	43
Statistics of boys' normal schools	*ib.*	44
Normal schools for girls	31	45
Normal School Examinations	*ib.*	46
Artizan School, Jorhát	32	47
Mechanical Apprentice Scholarships	*ib.*	48
Medical Scholarships	*ib.*	49
Provisional Certificate Examination	*ib.*	50
Law classes	*ib.*	51

SECTION VI.

FEMALE EDUCATION.

Comparison of girls' schools for the past two years	33	52
Statistics of girls' schools	*ib.*	53
Number of girls in boys' schools and the total number of girls under instruction	35	54
Classification of pupils in girls' schools	*ib.*	55
Stage of instruction	*ib.*	56
Results of examination	*ib.*	57
Sylhet Union	36	58

SECTION VII.

EDUCATION OF SPECIAL CLASSES.

(*a*) *European and Eurasian.*

The aided European and Eurasian School at Shillong	36	59

(*b*) *Muhammadan Education.*

The special measures taken for the encouragement of Muhammadan education and the number and percentage of Muhammadan pupils...	37	60
Mohsin Fund	*ib.*	61
Results of various examinations of Muhammadans for 1890-91 ...	*ib.*	62
Phulbari Madrassa, Sylhet	*ib.*	63

SECTION VIII.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

Private schools	38	64
Result of the Reward and Prize Examinations for *Tols* and *Maktabs*	*ib.*	65

SECTION IX.

PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF TEXT-BOOKS.

The Nowgong Text-book Committee	38	66
The revised list of Assamese text-books	39	67

PRESCRIBED STATEMENTS.

Education General Table I	41
Ditto II	42-43
Ditto III	44
Ditto IV	45
Ditto V	46
Ditto VI	47
Ditto VII	48

PROVINCIAL STATEMENTS.

Appendix A.—Results of Entrance Examination for last five years ...	49
" B.—Candidates who have obtained junior scholarships from Assam, 1891	*ib.*
" C.—Boarding-house	50
" D.—Return showing the present position of pupils who left high schools from the first class	51
" E.—Return showing the number of Assam students reading in Bengal Colleges and the number that passed the University Examinations	*ib.*
" F.—Lower primary schools for boys	52
" G.—Detailed classification of scholars on the 31st of March according to race or creed...	53

RESOLUTION OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER ON THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

GENERAL REPORT ON PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN ASSAM FOR THE YEAR 1890-91.

BEN... LIBRARY

SECTION I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The following statement gives the comparative statistics of all educational institutions that furnished returns for the last two years :

Class of Instruction.			1889-90. Schools.	1889-90. Pupils.	1890-91. Schools.	1890-91. Pupils.
Public Institutions.						
School Education, General.	Secondary, boys' ...	High schools ...	18	3,335	18	3,325
		Middle English ...	45	3,926	45	4,035
		„ Vernacular ...	48	3,221	46	2,992
	„ girls'	...	2	66	2	57
	Primary ...	for boys	2,044	60,552	2,094	60,119
		girls ...	140	2,414	128	2,026
School Education, Special.	Normal schools for boys	...	13	345	14	287
	„ „ girls	...	2	46	2	44
	Industrial schools	...	1	8	1	8
	European and Eurasian schools	...	1	24	1	17
	Law schools ...	...	1	6	2	19
	Other „ ...	...	5	224	3	166
Total			2,320	74,167	2,356	73,095
Private Institutions.						
Arabic or Persian			13	271	12	363
Sanskrit			82	1,419	84	1,489
Elementary Vernacular, boys'			24	510	19	462
Koran schools ...	boys'		132	2,331	161	3,150
	girls'		1	25	1	18
Other schools not conforming to departmental standard, boys'			5	165	8	307
Total			257	4,721	285	5,789
Grand total			2,577	78,888	2,641	78,884

Public institutions show a gain of 36 schools but a loss of 1,072 pupils, and private schools a gain of 28 schools and 1,068 pupils, so there was a net gain of 64 schools but a loss of 4 pupils.

While the number of high and middle English schools remained unchanged, there was a loss of 10 pupils in the former class and a gain of 109 pupils in the latter.

Middle Vernacular schools show a loss of two schools and 238 pupils, due to a loss of one Government school, namely, that at Katigora, which was closed on account of bad attendance, and the collapse of an unaided school. The loss of pupils occurred under the heads Government and unaided schools, where the number of pupils respectively fell off by 102 and 127.

Boys' primary schools increased by 50, but the number of pupils fell by 433 ; and girls' primary schools show a loss of 12 schools and 388 pupils. The causes will be discussed under their respective heads.

The increase of one school under the head Normal was due to the opening of a training class at the Raha Aided Middle Vernacular School, Nowgong ; and the apparent loss of 58 pupils is due to the classes not having been formed before the close of the year.

The above are the only changes of sufficient importance that need comment, and fuller explanations will be given in paragraph 3 when treating of the changes in each district.

The increase under private institutions occurred in Sylhet and Kámrúp, in the former district chiefly under elementary Koran schools, and in the latter under the heads advanced Sanskrit *tols* and elementary schools teaching a vernacular only or mainly.

2. As in former reports, the following table excludes private institutions, as the instruction imparted in the majority of these schools is wholly or mainly of a religious nature ; the table compares the number of public institutions and pupils for the last seven years :

Progress of public institutions.

		Schools.	Pupils.	Increase in Schools.	Increase in Pupils.	Decrease in Schools.	Decrease in Pupils.
1884-85	...	1,800	58,755	144	1,897	...	.....
1885-86	...	1,921	60,828	121	2,073	...	.....
1886-87	...	2,045	64,976	124	4,148	...	.....
1887-88	...	2,199	70,538	154	5,562	...	.....
1888-89	...	2,349	74,899	150	4,361	...	.....
1889-90	...	2,320	74,167	...	.....	29	732
1890-91	...	2,356	73,095	36	... ..	...	1,072

For the first five years there was a steady increase of schools and pupils, in the sixth year a decrease of schools and pupils, and in the year under report an increase of schools but a further loss of pupils. This will be discussed in the next paragraph.

3. The following statement gives the number of public institutions, the number of pupils, and the average number of pupils to each school for each district for the last three years :

District comparison of schools and pupils.

District.		1888-89. Schools.	1888-89. Pupils.	1888-89. Average per school.	1889-90. Schools.	1889-90. Pupils.	1889-90. Average per school.	1890-91. Schools.	1890-91. Pupils.	1890-91. Average per school.
Cachar	...	171	4,817	28	181	4,946	27	196	5,157	26
Sylhet	...	824	28,539	35	716	26,814	36	742	26,913	36
Goálpára	...	185	4,677	25	188	4,974	26	194	4,931	25
Kámrúp	...	324	10,726	33	329	10,866	33	338	10,437	31
Darrang	...	125	3,311	26	134	3,635	27	135	3,593	·27
Nowgong	...	175	6,287	36	176	6,013	34	182	5,696	31
Sibságar	...	261	8,417	32	267	8,924	33	267	8,798	33
Lakhimpur	...	103	3,271	32	97	3,096	32	105	2,998	28
Nága Hills	...	16	370	23	15	256	17	16	297	19
Khási and Jaintia Hills	...	128	3,663	29	148	3,865	26	147	3,582	24
Gáro Hills	...	36	721	20	38	700	18	33	593	18
Manipur	...	1	100	100	1	78	78	1	100	100
Total	...	2,349	74,899	32	2,320	74,167	32	2,356	73,095	31

A glance at the above statement shows that there has been a loss of pupils in all districts in the Assam Valley and in the Khási and Jaintia Hills, and I think this, at least for the Assam Valley districts, should be attributed to the general unhealthiness of the year and to high floods, rather than to any mismanagement on the part of the Local Boards, under whose administration most of the schools are placed. The district reports are entirely wanting in information regarding the working of Local Boards, and Chairmen's reports to the Commissioner of the Assam Valley and the Deputy Commissioners of Sylhet and Cachar contain little or no information regarding education, so that the only explanations I am able to give are those furnished by the Deputy Inspectors' reports, which may be summarised as follows. Cachar shows a gain of 15 schools and 211 pupils. The Deputy Inspector states that but for the frontier expeditions there would have been a greater increase ; and the Deputy Commissioner notes as follows :

" Education has been retarded by the pressure put upon the people for the supply of labour in connection with the Lushai expedition, and more recently the expedition to Manipur. "

and again :

"The Administration has suffered in every way in consequence of the expeditions, and the district has been demoralised. It will take a long time to recover."

In Sylhet there was a loss of four schools but a gain of 99 pupils, *viz.*, in North Sylhet a loss of 22 pupils, the number of schools remaining the same ; in Habiganj a loss of three schools and 150 pupils ; in Karimganj a loss of 18 schools and 662 pupils ; in Sunámganj and South Sylhet a gain of 5 and 12 schools and 27 and 906 pupils respectively. Regarding Karimganj, the Deputy Inspector remarks :

"The ground lost by Karimganj in 1889-90 has not only been not recovered yet, but there has been a further loss, both in schools and pupils."

In 1888-89 there were 219 schools with 6,990 pupils in Karimganj, and on the 31st March only 118 schools with 3,741 pupils, *i.e.*, in two years a loss of 101 schools and 3,249 pupils. All the schools, with one exception, in this subdivision are under the administration of the Local Board. In Goálpára there was a gain of six schools but a loss of 43 pupils: the loss was confined to the Goálpára subdivision. In Kámrúp there was a gain of nine schools but a loss of 429 pupils. In both these districts the prevalence of malarious fever is put forward by the Deputy Inspector as the chief cause of the decline in the number of pupils. For Kámrúp the Deputy Inspector also says that the great falling off in the roll number happened just towards the close of the year, and that the decline is purely or almost nominal; and in support of this he gives the following statistics. For all public institutions in Kámrúp the average strength and daily attendance for 1889-90 were 10,132 and 7,258, and for 1890-91, 10,221 and 7,256, showing that the average number on the rolls for the year under report increased by 89, while the daily attendance only fell by 2. These figures clearly bear out his statement, so that the loss of 429 pupils in Kámrúp should be looked upon only as temporary. In Darrang there was an increase of one school but a loss of 42 pupils, which occurred in the Mangaldai schools ; in Nowgong a gain of six schools but a loss of 317 pupils: the increase in schools was in the sadr circle, and the loss of pupils chiefly confined to the Raha circle. The Deputy Inspector of Central Assam attributed the loss of pupils in Darrang and Nowgong partly to malarious fever, and partly to slack inspection. In Sibságar, while the number of schools remained unchanged, the pupils fell off by 126, the sadr showing a loss of two schools and 84 pupils, Jorhát a loss of six schools and 177 pupils, and Golághát a gain of eight schools and 135 pupils. In the sadr the decline occurred chiefly in Local Board maintained and aided lower primary schools ; and if it was not for the starting of ten unaided lower primary schools with 270 pupils, the loss would have been very great. Education in this subdivision has, I regret to say, been steadily declining for the last three years, and neither the Local Board nor the departmental officers have rendered any explanations. In Golághát the increase was chiefly due to aided and unaided lower primary schools, and the decrease in Jorhát was entirely due to the unaided list of lower primary schools, which shows a loss of eight schools and 234 pupils, the maintained and aided schools having increased both in number and number of pupils. The collapse of most of the unaided or expectant schools was attributed by the Chairman to the Sub-Inspector, through press of census work, being unable to examine and recommend them for Local Board aid. The Deputy Inspector generally attributes the loss of pupils to an outbreak of cholera in May and June and high floods in July, August and September, and there is no doubt that these causes affected the attendance. In Lakhimpur there was a gain of eight schools but a loss of 98 pupils, *viz.*, a gain of nine schools and 12 pupils in Dibrugarh, with a loss of one school and 110 pupils in North Lakhimpur, which has been set down to high floods. I am unable to say anything concerning the loss of one school and 283 pupils in the Khási and Jaintia Hills, as the report from the Sub-Inspector of the Khási Hills has not been received. The only other changes of importance are the loss of five schools and 107 pupils in the Gáro Hills—this will be discussed under primary schools—and a gain of one school and 41 pupils in the Nága Hills. From the foregoing it appears that the loss of 1,072 pupils on the rolls on the 31st of March is not as serious as appears at first sight and really does not indicate any retrograde movement. Besides the causes above mentioned, there is one of great importance, namely, that all Sub-Inspectors were engaged on census work and were unable to do almost any inspection work in February and March, and this I feel confident has seriously affected the roll number on the 31st March. My experience is that the teachers, especially of primary schools, make strenuous efforts to increase the roll number of their schools before an inspection, but for the year under report, knowing that their schools were not likely to be inspected, they were probably indifferent. Now one new admission per school in February and March would not only have prevented a deficit but have shown a considerable increase in the number of pupils.

Percentage of pupils in public schools on children of a school-going age.

4. I think it will be interesting to show the progress made in the last decade, so the two subjoined statements have been prepared to show the actual number of pupils at school and the percentages on the number of children of a school-going age, which has been taken at 15 per cent. of the population for the years 1880-81 and 1890-91 :

1880-81.

District.	Males of schoolgoing age.	Females of schoolgoing age.	Pupils actually at school.		Percentage of males and females at school to males and females of a school-going age.		
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Khási and Jaintia Hills	12,081	13,323	1,851	819	15·32	6·15	10·51
Lakhimpur	14,450	12,534	2,243	28	15·52	·22	8 42
Nowgong	24,072	22,515	3,749	95	11·42	·42	8·25
Sibságar	29,279	26,262	4,485	62	15·32	·24	8·19
Darrang	21,363	19,637	3,110	55	14·56	·28	7·72
Kámrúp	49,359	47,385	6,135	126	12·43	·27	6·47
Cachar (including Hill Tracts) ...	25,040	22,038	2,912	113	11·63	·51	6·43
Goálpára	34,372	32,562	2,803	119	8·15	·37	4·37
Sylhet	149,968	145,384	11,373	135	7·32	·09	3·90
Gáro Hills	8,393	8,040	422	36	5·03	·45	2·79
Nága Hills	7,178*	6,979*	.....	.....†	.....†	.....†	.....†
Total	375,555	356,659	39,083	1,588	10·61	·45	5·66

* Nága Hills is included in the totals of males and females of schoolgoing age, but excluded in calculation of percentages.
† Return not received.

1890-91.

Sibságar	35,709	31,996	8,350	448	23·38	1 40	12 99
Khási and Jaintia Hills	14,188	15,464	2,536	1,046	17·87	6·76	12·08
Nowgong	26,653	24,951	5,495	201	20·62	·81	11·04
Kámrúp	48,129	46,929	9,958	479	20·69	1·02	10·98
Cachar (including Hill Tracts) ...	30,573	22,407	4,856	301	15·88	1·34	9·73
Sylhet	165,044	158,067	25,290	1,623	15·35	1·03	8·33
Lakhimpur	20,478	17,663	2,876	122	14·04	·69	7·86
Darrang	24,163	21,944	3,526	67	14·59	·30	7·79
Goálpára	35,368	32,181	4,680	251	13·23	·78	7·29
Gáro Hills	9,145	9,037	499	94	5·46	1·04	3·26
Nága Hills	9,285	9,026	249	48	2·68	·53	1·62
Manipur	.....	... .	100*	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	418,735	389,665	68,415	4,680	16·31	1·20	9·03

* Manipur is included in number of pupils, but excluded in calculation of percentages.

An analysis of the above statements shows that the number of boys attending school has in ten years increased by 29,322, or 75 per cent., and the number of girls by 3,092, or 194 per cent., while the increase in the number of boys and girls of a schoolgoing age was 11 and 9 per cent. respectively : the percentage of boys actually at school on the number of boys of a schoolgoing age has risen from 10·61 to 16·31 per cent., and for girls from ·45 to 1·2 per cent., while for children in general the increase has been from 5·66 to 9·03 per cent. The increase in percentage was most marked in Sibságar, Kámrúp and Sylhet, being 4·8, 4·51 and 4·43 respectively. Cachar comes next with 3·3 ; Goálpára, Nowgong and the Khási and Jaintia Hills follow with increases of 2·79 and 1·57 respectively ; the Gáro Hills and Darrang show scarcely any progress, the increase being only ·47 and ·07 respectively ; and Lakhimpur, instead of progress, actually shows a retrograde tendency, having lost ·56. In order to exhibit more clearly the changes that happened, I have compiled the following statement showing the increase or decrease in the percentage of boys and girls on the number of boys and girls of a schoolgoing age in 1880-81 to 1890-91 :

	Increase or decrease in percentage in ten years.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Sibságar	8·06	1·16	4·8
Kámrúp	8·26	·75	4·51
Sylhet	8·03	·94	4·43
Cachar	4·25	·83	3·3
Goálpára	5·08	·41	2·92
Nowgong	9·2	·39	2·79
Khási and Jaintia Hills	2·55	·61	1·57
Gáro Hills	·43	59	·47
Darrang	·03	·02	·07
Lakhimpur	—1·48	·47	—·56

A further analysis of the figures in the statements for 1880-81 and 1890-91 shows that for the education of boys Sylhet has made the greatest strides, the percentage having more than doubled; Nowgong comes next, followed by Kámrúp and Goálpára bracketted; and for girls Sylhet again stands first, followed by Sibságar and Kámrúp. As the table of castes and tribes as returned by the late census are not yet ready, I am unable to give the classification of pupils according to religion, &c.

Summary of public schools

5. The subjoined statement gives an abstract of the statistics of attendance and average cost of educating each pupil in all classes of public schools for native children :

Class of schools.	Number of schools.	Average roll number monthly.	Average daily attendance.	Percentage of attendance on roll average number.	Average yearly cost of educating each pupil. To the Government.	Average yearly cost of educating each pupil. Total.	Percentage of State cost on total cost of each class of schools.
					Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
High Schools.							
Government	11	2,130	1,708	80·19	13 9 1	29 12 7	45·55
Aided	4	475	378	79·58	9 2 3	27 10 1	32·43
Unaided	3	643	450	69·98	.....	12 6 1	.....
Total	18	3,248	2,536	78·08	10 2 5	25 15 1	.....
Total for preceding year ...	18	3,292	2,542	77·2	9 0 7	24 7 8	.....
Middle English.							
Government	2	151	116	76·82	9 11 4	15 3 10	63·75
Aided	32	2,593	1,988	76·67	5 2 3	12 13 7	40·02
Unaided	11	929	658	70·83	0 4 3	13 3 5	1·03*
Total	45	3,673	2,762	75·20	4 10 3	13 9 4	.....
Total for preceding year ...	45	3,615	2,712	·75	5 13 3	14 14 1	.....
Middle Vernacular							
Government	14	1,183	924	78·10	6 12 0	10 15 9	61·47
Aided	31	1,557	1,218	78·23	4 8 8	10 4 6	44·17
Unaided	3	153	109	71·24	.....	7 8 3	.....
Total	48	2,893	2,251	77·80	5 3 5	10 0 6	.....
Total for preceding year ...	50	3,036	2,357	77·6	5 3 9	10 8 2	.....
Upper Primary.							
Local Fund and Municipal	3	90	70	77·78	6 5 2	8 10 7	67·82
Aided	97	3,372	2,491	73·87	3 3 2	6 1 3	52·77
Unaided	2	91	68	74·73	.....	1 13 9	.....
Total	102	3,553	2,629	73·99	3 4 9	6 2 6	.....
Total for preceding year ...	99	3,488	2,638	75·6	3 2 5	5 14 11	.....
Lower Primary.							
Government	30	404	303	75·	5 2 11	5 2 11	100·
Local Fund and Municipal	1,220	29,862	21,343	71·47	2 8 2	2 14 3	86·84
Aided	774	20,944	15,618	74·57	1 8 1	2 15 6	50·65
Unaided	126	3,162	2,594	82·04	.....	0 10 10	.....
Total	2,150	54,372	39,858	73·31	1 15 11	2 12 11	.....
Total for preceding year ...	2,085	54,310	40,687	74·9	2 1 0	2 13 9	.....

* On account of municipal expenditure paid for the unaided school at Shillong.

An analysis of the above shows that the average strength decreased by 2 and the daily attendance by 900, distributed as follows : to high schools a decrease of 44 and 6, to middle English schools a gain of 58 and 50, to middle Vernacular schools a decrease of 143 and 106, to upper and lower primary schools an increase of 65 and 62 in average strength, with a decrease of 9 and 829 in daily attendance respectively. The

percentage of daily attendance on the average strength shows a slight improvement in all classes of schools except primary ; and in this class of schools the unhealthiness of the year, as it naturally would, told more than in the advanced schools.

Gross expenditure

6. The following statement shows the gross expenditure on education for the last five years :

	1886-87.	1887-88	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
From Provincial ...	1,42,610	1,57,273	1,66,821	1,62,979	1,65,465
„ Local Rate Funds	1,55,187	1,52,781	1,46,945	1,52,604	1,52,040
„ Municipal „	4,702	5,459	5,517	6,231	5,227
Other sources ...	1,55,417	1,54,896	1,65,723	1,72,739	1,77,743
Total	4,57,916	4,70,409	4,85,006	4,94,553	5,00,475

Provincial expenditure is the net charge, *i.e.*, the total amount drawn, less the receipts under the heads for which the expenditure was incurred. It includes Rs. 12,021 spent by the Public Works Department, *viz.*, Rs. 6,639 on original works, and Rs. 5,382 on the repairs of departmental school buildings. The net Provincial expenditure increased by Rs. 2,486. The expenditure under local rates decreased by Rs. 564 : this will be treated of under Local Board expenditure. Under municipal funds there was a decrease of Rs. 1,004, which will be discussed under municipal expenditure ; and under other sources there was an increase of Rs. 5,004. On the whole the expenditure increased by Rs. 5,922, and 35·5 per cent. of the total expenditure was covered by receipts from fees and other sources, against 34·9 per cent. for the year before. The expenditure from other sources for the last two years is shown in the subjoined statement :

	1889-90.	1890-91.
	Rs.	Rs.
Goálpára Trust Fund ...	560	560
Williamson's „ „ ...	3,395	3,245
Mohsin „ „ ...	778	796
Contributions by Welsh Mission, Khási and Jaintia Hills	25,000	25,350
„ „ American Mission, Gáro Hills ...	5,298	4,441
„ „ „ Nága „ ...	1,069	925
„ „ „ Kámrúp ...	393	395
„ „ other people ...	8,534	9,324
Subscriptions ...	23,655	25,757
Sale-proceeds of Book Department ...	51	105
Fees in Assam schools ...	1,01,180	1,03,999
Examination fees and fines for the transfer of scholarships in Assam ...	1,353	1,140
Fees in Calcutta University ...	1,473*	1,706†
Total ...	1,72,739	1,77,743

* Amount of fees paid was Rs 1,640
† „ „ 1,690

The points of interest in the above are (1) the increase of Rs. 2,819 under fees in Assam schools ; (2) the increase of Rs. 2,102 under subscriptions, and an increase of Rs. 1,790 under contributions (other people). The decrease under examination fees, fines, &c., in Assam schools, or rather the abnormal increase in 1889-90, has been explained in the concluding part of paragraph 8 of last year's report ; and the income for the year under report is only a little in excess of the mean of the two preceding years.

7. The following statement compares the Provincial budget estimates, the actual expenditure as shown by the department and by the preliminary statement of the comptrol department :

Provincial budget and expenditure.

Heads of charges.	Sanctioned revised budget estimate.	Expenditure as shown by department.	Expenditure shown by Comptroller's preliminary statement.	Difference.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Direction	20,000	20,233	20,233	
Inspection	36,800	37,545	37,574	— 29
Government schools, general { High ...	63,636	63,160	63,173	— 13
Government schools, general { Middle ...	17,104	15,462	15,581	— 119
Government schools, general { Primary ...	1,416	1,027	1,027	
Government schools, special	12,500	11,309	11,215	+ 94
Scholarships in Assam	11,544	8,911	8,911	
Grants-in-aid	13,700	15,093	15,055	+ 38
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Grants for encouragement of literature ...	200	1,889	1,889	
Miscellaneous	3,940	2,506	2,477	+ 29
Refund	.....	.....	1*	
Total	1,80,840	1,77,135	1,77,136	

* Refund of fees for free studentship.

The expenditure as shown by the preliminary statement of the comptrol department agrees in the total with that shown by departmental returns, but there are some differences in classification. The expenditure on inspection exceeded the allotment, and this was due to travelling allowance. Under middle schools there was a saving, principally due to the closing of one departmental school and holding in abeyance the filling up of some of the posts of teachers that fell vacant during the year ; under special schools the savings are accounted for by short drawing of stipends and certain rewards to teachers for passing candidates not being paid within the official year ; under grants-in-aid the excess was caused by a special grant of Rs. 2,000 to the Welsh Mission towards a high school building ; under grants for the encouragement of literature there was a special grant to Mr. Needham of Rs. 1,000 sanctioned by the Secretary of State and payments for copies of school books, the sale of a certain number of copies of which was guaranteed—both these were unforeseen charges, which could not have been anticipated when the budget was framed ; and the saving under the head scholarships was due to short drawings. On the whole, the expenditure fell short of the budget allotment by Rs. 3,705.

8. The following statement shows the expenditure of each Local Board as returned in the annual reports and the Comptroller's preliminary statement :

Local budgets and expenditure.

	Sanctioned budget estimate	Expenditure as returned by Local Boards and used in this report.	Expenditure as per Comptroller's preliminary statement.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Silchar	10,744	8,345	8,368
Hailákándi	4,571	4,405	4,405
Total	15,315	12,750	12,773
North Sylhet	12,735	10,513	11,402
Habiganj	16,041	13,583	13,555
Sunámganj	9,305	8,358	8,344
South Sylhet	10,624	13,753	13,736
Karimganj	11,712	9,092	9,052
Total	60,417	55,299	56,089
Dhubri	9,750	8,654	8,659
Goálpára	5,700	5,693	5,693
Total	15,450	14,347	14,352

	Sanctioned budget estimate.	Expenditure as returned by Local Boards and used in this report.	Expenditure as per Comptroller's preliminary statement.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gauháti	20,512	19,244	19,222
Barpeta	6,410	5,730	5,791
Total	26,922	24,974	25,013
Tezpur	5,366	4,159	4,135
Mangaldai	5,607	4,980	5,008
Total	10,973	9,139	9,143
Nowgong	13,665	12,476	12,474
Sibságar	7,514	6,785	6,785
Jorhát	6,329	5,294	5,298
Golághát	4,030	3,715	3,725
Total	17,873	15,794	15,808
Dibrugarh	6,696	3,829	4,135
North Lakhimpur ...	3,550	3,432	3,432
Total	10,246	7,261	7,567
Grand total	1,70,861	1,52,040	1,53,219

The Comptroller's figures exceed those given in the annual reports by Rs. 1,179 ; the Boards' figures for Goálpára, Sibságar, and North Lakhimpur, as they should, exactly agree with those of the comptrol department ; for other Boards, with the exception of North Sylhet and Dibrugarh, the differences are unimportant, but in North Sylhet and Dibrugarh the Comptroller's figures exceed those given in the annual reports by Rs. 889 and Rs. 306 respectively. As none of the Boards' accounts pass through this office, I am unable to give any explanation, and I believe the Boards were unaware of the difference when their annual reports were submitted, as these reports were sent off before the issue of the Comptroller's preliminary statements. Ten Boards did not nearly work up to their estimates, and the South Sylhet exceeded its estimate by Rs. 3,129 : this was due to a building grant of Rs. 3,500 for a high school building at Maulvi Bázár, the excess being met from transfers from other budget heads.

9. The following statement includes all charges on education, and exhibits the expenditure under the several heads for the last two years :

Comparison of expenditure.

	1889-90.							1890-91.						
	Provincial.	Local Fund.	Municipal.	Fees.	Subscription.	Endowments, contributions, and other sources.	Total.	Provincial.	Local Fund.	Municipal.	Fees.	Subscription.	Endowments, contributions, and other sources.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Government schools ..	49,923	83,235	3,612	50,363	2,367	4,209	1,93,709	51,742	77,838	3,324	48,544	2,104	3,989	1,87,601
2. Aided	12,686*	54,866	1,757	39,899	18,080*	25,711*	1,52,979	12,139*	56,968	1,343	42,284	19,435*	24,705	1,56,964
3. Unaided	....	....	..	10,918	2,761	11,155	24,834	....	....	125	13,171	3,431	9,280	26,007
4. Scholarship	27,203	11,109	..	....	....	1,289	39,601	27,698	9,896	..	....	....	1,356	38,950
5. Direction, &c.	73,187	3,394	862	2,826	4	2,714	83,430	73,886	7,338	435	2,846	727	5,721	90,953
Total	1,62,979	1,52,604	6,231	1,04,006	23,055	45,078	4,94,533	1,65,465	1,52,040	5,227	1,06,845	25,757	45,141	5,00,475

* Includes expenditure on the middle English school at Manipur

A comparison of the figures for the two years shows that the Provincial expenditure increased by Rs. 2,486, made up as follows :—under Government schools, scholarships and direction, inspection and miscellaneous charges, increases of Rs. 1,819, Rs. 495, and Rs. 699 respectively ; and under aided schools a decrease of Rs. 527. The increase under Government schools is explained under its proper headings ; that under scholarships being chiefly due to arrears from the year before being paid during the year under report, and that under direction, inspections, &c., chiefly to unforeseen charges; and the decrease under aided schools was due to the bill for February for a grant in aid to the mission in the Gáro Hills not being cashed within the official year, and also to arrears for 1888-89 being paid in 1889-90. Under Local Funds there was a decrease of Rs. 564, namely, Rs. 5,397 and Rs. 1,213 under Government schools and scholarships, with an increase of Rs. 2,102 and Rs. 3,944 under aided schools and miscellaneous charges, which include special grants for buildings, &c. The decrease under Government schools

and the increase under aided was partly due to the transfer of Government schools to the aided list ; but the decrease in the former would have been less, and the increase in the latter greater, if the reward examinations had been more regularly held : this is discussed under its proper head. The decrease in expenditure on scholarships is chiefly due to some bills not having been cashed within the financial year, and also to vacancies caused by bad progress, and deductions on account of absence ; and the increase under direction, miscellaneous charges, &c., is chiefly due to special grants towards buildings.

Under municipal funds there was a decrease of Rs. 1,004, *viz.*, Rs. 427 under buildings, Rs. 414 to aided schools, and Rs. 288 to Government schools ; but there was a grant of Rs. 125 to unaided schools.

Under fees there was an increase of Rs. 2,839, due to the aided and unaided lists.

Under subscriptions there was a gain of Rs. 2,102, and under other sources Rs. 63. To sum up, the total expenditure increased by Rs. 5,922, of which Rs. 918 was debited to the State, and Rs. 5,004 to the public.

10. The following statement compares the direct expenditure on all classes of schools under the several heads for the last two years ; the indirect expenditure, *viz.*, Rs. 38,950 on scholarships and Rs. 90,953 on direction, inspection, buildings, &c., are excluded :

Direct expenditure.

—	1889-90.									
	Number of schools.	Average number on rolls.	Provincial.	Local.	Municipal.	Fees.	Subscriptions.	Endowments, contributions, &c.	Total.	Cost per head.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.
Secondary — High	18	3,292	25,424	4,076	250	44,745	5499	5,519	80,593	24 9 6
Secondary — Middle English (boys')*	45	3,615	2,230	12,650	820	15,149	9,275	2,298	48,422	13 6 3
Secondary — " Vernacular (boys')	48	2,976	8,588	6,289	360	9,177	5,981	713	31,658	10 6 11
Secondary — " " (girls')	2	60	....	420	280	....	150	....	850	14 2 8
Total	113	9,943	36,192	23,435	1,710	69,071	15,955	14,560	1,60,923	....
Primary — Upper (boys')	99	3,488	....	10,876	120	5,613	3,920	112	20,701	5 14 11
Primary — Lower primary (boys')	1,945	51,959	9,938	92,020	1,753	20,563	2,356	18,192	1,45,822	2 12 11
Primary — " " (girls')	140	2,351	886	5,419	1,104	181	318	1,672	9,580	4 1 2
Total	2,184	57,798	10,824	1,09,315	2,977	26,357	6,654	19,976	1,76,103	....
Special — Normal (boys')	13	349	13,999	5,341	....	72	368	1,867	21,647	62 0 5
Special — " (mistress')	2	45	75	...	....	....	....	1,871	1,946	43 3 11
Special — European and Eurasian	1	25	1,499	....	....	5,265	....	....	6,764	270 9 0
Special — Williamson Artizan School	1	16	....	....	....	....	....	2,174	2,174	135 14 0
Special — Law schools	1	9	....	...	....	415	....	....	415	46 1 9
Special — Other special schools	5	209	....	10	682	....	231	627	1,580	7 6 8
Total	23	653	15,573	5,351	682	5,752	599	6,539	34,496	....
Grand total	2,320	68,394	62,589	1,38,101	5,369	1,01,180	23,208	41,075	3,71,522	5 6 11

—	1890-91.									
	Number of schools.	Average number on rolls.	Provincial.	Local.	Municipal	Fees	Subscriptions.	Endowments, contributions, &c	Total	Cost per head
			Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs. a. p.
Secondary — High	18	3,248	28,897	3,867	200	45,742	641	4,905	84,252	25 15 1
Secondary — Middle English (boys')*	45	3,673	1,510	12,876	538	16,338	9,982	6,534	47,778	13 9 4
Secondary — " Vernacular (boys')	46	2,840	7,986	6,044	360	9,315	5,580	19	29,304	10 5 1
Secondary — " " (girls')	2	53	....	365	300	. .	176	. .	841	15 13 11
Total	111	9,814	38,393	23,152	1,398	71,390	16,379	11,458	1,62,170	.....
Primary — Upper (boys')	102	3,253	....	11,302	120	5,831	4,197	125	21,575	6 2 6
Primary — Lower primary (boys')	1,992	52,484	9,462	90,931	1,733	19,743	2,360	18,377	1,43,606	2 11 10
Primary — " " (girls')	128	1,888	808	4,588	1,024	217	1,058	1,443	9,138	4 13 5
Total	2,222	57,925	10,270	1,06,821	2,877	25,791	8,615	19,945	1,74,319	.....
Special — Normal (boys')	14	337	13,398	4,833	....	118	....	2,532	20,881	61 15 5
Special — " (mistress')	2	44	100	....	....	....	....	1,598	1,698	38 9 8
Special — European and Eurasian	1	37	1,720	....	....	5,087	....	300	7,107	192 1 3
Special — Williamson Artizan School	1	8	....	....	....	....	....	1,859	1,859	232 6 0
Special — Law schools	2	19	....	....	....	1,580	....	....	1,580	83 2 6
Special — Other special schools	3	151	....	....	517	33	36	372	958	6 5 8
Total	23	596	15,218	4,833	517	6,818	36	6,661	34,083	.....
Grand total	2,356	68,335	63,881	1,34,806	4,792	1,03,999	25,030	38,064	3,70,572	5 6 9

* Includes the Middle English school at Manipur.

In paragraph 1 it was shown that there was a gain of 36 public institutions but a loss of 1,072 pupils on the rolls on the 31st March The above statement however shows that the average strength only fell off by 59 ; and this I consider pretty clearly bears out the supposition that in many cases, as for instance in Kámrúp, the decline mostly occurred towards the end of the year, and need not be looked upon as indicating a retrograde movement. The expenditure from Provincial, Local, and Municipal taken together came to Rs. 2,03,479, against Rs 2,06,059 for 1889-90. Of this, 30·9 per cent, against 29·7 per cent., was spent on secondary schools ; 58·9 per cent., against 59·7 per cent., on primary schools ; and 10 1 per cent., against 10·4 per cent., on special schools—figures so nearly identical that the differences do not need explanation.

Fee receipts in Government schools.

11. *High Schools.*—The total increase under fees amounted to Rs. 997, *viz.*, in unaided schools an increase of Rs. 1,909, and in aided and departmental schools a decrease of Rs. 67 and Rs. 845 respectively. In departmental schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 33,234, or 52·3 per cent. of the total direct expenditure, against Rs. 34,079, or 55·8 per cent., for 1889-90 ; for aided schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 6,515, or 50·7 per cent. of the direct expenditure, against Rs. 6,582, or 49·3 per cent., for 1889-90 ; and for unaided schools the receipts fees came to Rs. 5,993, or 75·2 per cent. of the direct expenditure, against Rs. ., or 65·4 per cent., for the year before. The causes for the changes are mentioned under high schools.

Middle Schools.—The total increase under fees for all classes of middle schools taken together came to Rs. 1,322, *viz.*, to Government schools Rs. 193, to aided schools Rs. 714, and to unaided schools Rs. 415. In Government schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 5,840, or 38·1 per cent. of the total direct cost, against Rs. 5,647, or 34·8 per cent., for 1889-90 ; for aided schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 15,787, or 32·0 per cent. of the total direct cost, against Rs. 15,073, or 29·6 per cent., for 1889-90 ; and in unaided schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 4,021, or 30·2 per cent. of the direct cost of these schools, against Rs. 3,606, or 27·2 per cent. for the year before. The above shows an actual and percentage gain in receipts from fees under each head, which is encouraging.

Primary Schools.—Government primary schools may be separated into two classes : (1) those under the department for aboriginal tribes, in which fees are not charged ; (2) those under Local and Municipal Boards, where fees are charged when practicable, but a pupil is not prevented from attending one of these lower primary schools on account of his or her inability to pay fees. For Local and Municipal Boards' schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 9,352, or 10·7 per cent. of the direct expenditure, against Rs. 10,565, or 11·3 per cent., for 1889-90. For aided schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 14,895, or 18·1 per cent. of the direct expenditure, against Rs. 12,975, or 16·7 per cent., for 1889-90. In unaided schools the receipts from fees came to Rs. 1,544, or 66·3 per cent. of the direct expenditure, against Rs. 2,813 for the year before. For all classes of primary schools the receipts from fees increased by Rs. 434.

Municipal expenditure on schools.

12. The following statistics, as far as expenditure on education is concerned, have been prepared from the municipal reports, and the number of schools has been taken from Deputy Inspectors' annual reports, as this information is not given in the municipal reports :

Name of municipality.	Total receipts of each municipality, excluding balances.	Expenditure on education.	Percentage on education.	Municipal schools.		Other schools receiving municipal contribution.				Number and class of schools within municipal limits.					
				Special.	Primary	High.	Middle.	Primary.	Special.	High	Middle	Normal.	Primary	Special.	Total.
	Rs	Rs.													
1 Silchar	14,552	401	2 8	.	3	..	..	..		1	1		3	..	5
2. Sylhet .. .	16,889	565	3·8	.	4	.	..	1	.	3	1	..	6	.	10
3. Habiganj	3,260	52	1 6	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1		3	..	5
4. Balaganj	1,550	52	3·4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..		1
5. Sunámganj	1,766	95	5 4	..	1	.	..	..	..	1	2	.	2	..	5
6. Dhubri .. .	6,185	222	3 6	.	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	.	1	..	3
7. Goálpára . ..	4,410	325	7 4	..	..	..	1	..	.	.	1	..	4	..	5
8. Gauháti	24,172	1,552	6·4	1	7	..	1	..	..	1	3	2	7	1	14
9 Barpeta	5,678	362	6 4	1	1	1	.	..	..	1	1		6	1	9
10 Sibságar	8,766	450	5·1	.	1	..	..	1	..	2	1	1	2		6
11 Jorhát	4,390	120	2 7		1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	1	5
12 Golaghát	5,706	272	4 8	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3
13 Dibrugarh .. .	22,291	761	3 4	..	2	.	1	..	..	1	2	1	2	..	6
14 Shillong	10,381	200	1·9	..	.		1	1	..	2	1	1	2	..	6
Total	1,30,005	5,429	4·2	2	23	1	6	3	..	15	19	5	41	3	83

N.B. The Superintendent of Census reports 15 municipalities in existence on 31st March 1891

The expenditure from municipal funds as returned by Deputy Inspectors came to Rs. 5,227, or less than that in the above statement by Rs. 202. The principal differences were in Sylhet, Gauháti and Sibságar, where the expenditure as shown by the Deputy Inspectors fell short of that shown in the municipal reports by Rs. 82, Rs. 10, and

Rs. 99 respectively. The figures returned by Deputy Inspectors are those used throughout this report, as the Commissioner's figures do not reach this office in time. In Sylhet the contribution decreased from Rs. 936 to Rs. 565, due to the withdrawal of aid from a middle English school which had my entire approval. In Habiganj and Dhubri the decrease in expenditure was due to less expenditure on buildings and repairs, and that in Shillong to the withdrawal of the grant from the Government high school. The district report gives no explanation regarding the increase or decrease in the municipal expenditure in Upper Assam, but presumably the increase in Dibrugarh was on account of a second lower primary school. The Barpeta Municipality spent Rs. 362, against Rs. 201 for the preceding year; of this, Rs. 200 was a grant to the local aided high school. This grant, with my approval, has been disallowed by the Commissioner of the Assam Valley for the current year, on the grounds that the first duty of the municipality is to provide for primary education. On the whole, municipalities spent 4·2 per cent. of their income on education, against 4·4 per cent for the year before.

IA.—Recommendations of the Education Commission.

13. The only new measure adopted during the year was the issue of a circular laying down rules for the removal from high schools of boys who have not reached the fourth class by a certain age. In the case of Hindu boys the limit of age has been fixed at 16, and for Muhammadan boys and children of aboriginal tribes the limit has been fixed at 18, and another clause inserted authorising headmasters to require that any boy who fails to get promotion for two successive years, except his failure was caused by illness or some other unavoidable circumstances, should withdraw from the school. Headmasters were further ordered to use great discretion in enforcing the above rules and to watch their effect. The following rules or instructions already in force were revised:—(1) "The Inter-School Rules for High Schools," laying down the conditions under which boys may change schools; similar rules for middle schools are under consideration: (2) Rules for holding examinations for granting provisional certificates of competency to Sub-Inspectors and teachers in high and middle schools; these rules have now been extended to aided schools: and (3) Instructions to inspecting officers. Regarding text-books, the list of Bengali and English books for middle schools, approved of by the Bengal Text-book Committee, has been introduced. Mr. J. C. Nesfield, Inspector of Schools in Oudh, has brought out a series of "Anglo-Oriental Readers" for use in schools, with direct reference to the orders of the Government of India as set forth in the Resolution of the 17th August 1889, and this series has been included in the list of text books, and is now generally used in high schools, and I trust these will be later on generally used in middle English schools. Selections from Chambers's "Moral Class Book" form the prescribed course in English for the Middle English Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination; so, as far as books were available, due attention has been given to the orders of the Government of India laying down that the course of study in schools should include lessons on moral subjects. I believe the Central Text Book Committee, Bengal, are engaged in preparing a list of books from the authorised list for middle schools, which may be accepted as text-books on moral subjects, and when this list is published, due attention will be given to introduce such books as are suitable for our Assam schools.

14. The annual reports, with the exception of those from some high schools, are almost silent on the question of discipline and moral training. I have observed that, as a rule, discipline is better in departmental than other schools, and that in these schools there is also a higher tone of morality both amongst the pupils and teachers. Open breaches of orders or defiance of authority have, I am happy to record, been rare, but a few cases have happened, some of which have been punished by rustication. There is, however, one class of breach of discipline, or rather good manners, very common in our schools, and that is, disrespect to teachers and inspecting officers. I have frequently remarked that when a teacher or inspector enters a class-room, the pupils remain seated, that they show no signs of respect to a superior when passing him out of school, and they have a rude manner in handing over books or slates to their teachers, and even sometimes to inspecting officers. Cases are not also wanting of disrespect on the part of teachers towards Inspectors; and I fear that in some cases at least the want of respect on the part of the pupils may fairly be attributed to the bad example set them by their teachers. As an instance, I may mention that within the last year on my entering a certain schoolroom not a single master or pupil rose to receive me. In this special case I attributed the marked want of respect to gross ignorance rather than to positive disrespect. Some of the headmasters of high schools dwell a good deal on the low moral tones of their pupils, as evinced by the systematic system of copying that goes on, and the occasional presentation of applications for leave with false

signatures. The former undoubtedly shows a low standard of morality on the part of the pupils, but it also shows a great want of the powers of discipline and organisation on the part of the staff. With proper precautions copying should be almost impossible in a class, and the only way to prevent its occurrence is to make it impossible. This subject is exhaustively treated of in many of the works on school management and art of teaching. My experience is that in every school in which copying is rife there is a marked want of discipline and organisation. The latter is a very serious offence, and one which must be stopped at all hazards. The introduction of scholars' registers, in which attendance, as well as the progress and conduct, is entered has, in a great measure, put a check to this offence, and serious punishment has been inflicted in cases which have been brought home to the culprits. Punishments, such as fines and corporal punishment for breaches of discipline and other offences, have always been in force in Assam. The question of revised instructions on this head received careful consideration during the year, and a circular is now in press laying down general rules for the guidance of teachers.

SECTION II.

CONTROLLING AGENCIES.

15. Babu Ratnadhar Datta, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Upper Assam, went on two years' furlough in August, and Babu Jagadbandhu Sen, Sub-Inspector, Silchar, was put in to officiate as Deputy Inspector in his place. Babu Kali Ram Sarma Barua, Sub-Inspector, Mangaldai, fell ill and went on ten months' leave on medical certificate from July; and Babu Golak Chandra Bhuiyan, a master in the Tezpur High School, was put in to act as a Sub-Inspector on Rs 45, and posted to Mangaldai. In the Surma Valley, on the transfer of Babu Jagadbandhu Sen, Sub-Inspector, Silchar, as officiating Deputy Inspector, Upper Assam, the opportunity was taken to make a general transfer of all Sub-Inspectors in accordance with the instructions contained in the Chief Commissioner's circular No. 6R., dated the 15th February 1890, and since the close of the year other transfers have been carried out in Lower Assam.

16. The following table shows the amount of inspection work done by Deputy and Sub-Inspectors of Schools :

Division and district.	Officer.	Area of district.	Number of schools on 1st April according to last year's return.	Number of schools at work on 31st March 1891.	Number of days on tour.	Visits paid.	Miles travelled.
Surma Valley...	Deputy Inspector ...	9,106	927	938	180	143	1,616
	Sub-Inspector, Silchar ...	3,750	106	116	263	197	1,293
	" Hailákándi ...		75	80	235	174	1,798
	" Habiganj ...	969	178	175	206	206	1,906
	" Karimganj ...	1,033	136	118	221	189	1,772
	" Sunámganj ...	1,415	99	104	229	184	2,042
	" North Sylhet ...	1,051	164	165	205	316	1,963
	" South " ...	888	169	180	267	246	2,246
Lower Assam ...	Deputy Inspector ...	7,528	517	532	193	216	1,972
	Sub-Inspector, Goálpára ...	3,897	99	97	200	247	1,582
	" Dhubri ...		89	97	225	216	2,388
	" North bank, Gauháti.	2,431	129	131	203	167	1,451
	" South ditto ...		96	98	200	169	1,516
	" Barpeta ...	1,200	104	109	173	170	1,653
Central " ...	Deputy Inspector ...	7,168	310	317	251	234	2,150
	Sub-Inspector, Mangaldai ...	3,418	73	73	207	229	1,737
	" Tezpur ...		61	62	261	177	2,087
	" Nowgong ...	3,750	97	103	284	291	2,211
	" Raha ...		79	79	269	224	1,921
Upper " ...	Deputy Inspector ...	6,002	365	372	187	146	1,506
	Sub-Inspector, Golághát ...	947	72	80	263	248	2,403
	" Jorhát ...	926	104	100	271	234	2,862
	" Sibságar ...	982	92	87	217	279	2,095
	" Dibrugarh ...	2,040	47	53	241	164	3,185
	" North Lakhimpur	1,107	50	52	209	162	2,028
Khási and Jaintia Hills.	" Khási Hills ...	6,157	89	84	return not furnished.		
	" Jaintia " ...		59	63	254	145	1,911
Gáro Hills ...	" Gáro " ...	3,643	48	33	225	104	1,359

Deputy Inspectors were on an average 203 days on tour and paid 185 visits to schools, against 187 and 177 respectively for the year before. Babu Navakisor Sen, Deputy Inspector of the Surma Valley, reports that he was unable to do any inspection in the Cachar district during the cold weather owing to his being engaged on census work in Sylhet. He is an experienced officer, and one whose opinion or recommendations can be thoroughly relied on Babu Hari Mohan Lahiri, Deputy Inspector, Lower Assam, did good work during the year. He spent 93 days on tour in Goálpára inspecting 80 schools, and 100 days on tour in Kámrúp inspecting 136 schools. Besides this, he was engaged for nearly a month conducting the quarterly and annual examinations of the Gauháti survey school. Babu Giris Chandra Datta, Deputy Inspector, Central Assam, was particularly active during the year, being 251 days on tour, 165 of which were spent in the Nowgong district. He made 234 inspections, *viz.*, 72 in Darrang and 162 in Nowgong, and also held ten meetings of gurus (6 in Nowgong and 4 in Darrang), when he gave instruction to these men in mauzadári and bázár accounts, arithmetic and sanitary science. The Officiating Deputy Inspector, Upper Assam, has not separated the work done by him from that of his predecessor. Their combined work represents 187 days on tour with 146 visits to schools ; of these, 97 days and 47 visits were in the Lakhimpur district. On the whole, there has been a decided improvement in the work done by Deputy Inspectors over that for the year before, and I am glad to be able to record that I consider their work as a rule has been well and efficiently done.

Sub-Inspectors were on an average 232 days on tour and paid 206 visits to schools, or rather made 206 inspections and examinations of schools ; for in some cases several schools were examined together for rewards and for each school it was counted as an inspection or visit. Thus, for instance, if three schools were brought together and examined for rewards on the same day, this was entered as three not one inspection. For the year before Sub-Inspectors were on an average 231 days on tour and made 240 inspections. Thus for the year under report the number of days on tour on the average increased by one, while the number of inspections on the average fell off by 34, the cause being that all the Sub-Inspectors were engaged on census work during the cold weather, which is the best time for inspection ; and this, though it did not interfere with the number of days on tour (the number on census work being included in the table in the preceding paragraph) seriously interfered with their inspection work. I am happy to record that in every case the census officer remarked very favourably on the work done by the Sub-Inspector in his circle. The report of the Sub-Inspector of the Khási Hills, U Robin Roy, has not up to date (25th June) reached me. This report should have been submitted to the Deputy Commissioner on or before the 20th April, and was due in this office on the 10th May. The work done by this officer has not been included in the above figures ; but if the report is received before this passes through the press, the inspection done by this man will be inserted with a note to that effect.* In seven circles the prescribed number of days on tour, *viz.*, 260, were exceeded, as shown by the following statement :

Circle.	Days on tour.	Number of visits.
Nowgong	284	291
Jorhát	271	234
Raha	269	224
South Sylhet	267	246
Silchar	263	197
Golághát	263	248
Tezpur	261	177

In the case of Silchar and Tezpur the number of visits or inspections were not at all proportionate to the number of days, the fact being that a good part of the time these men were on tour was wholly devoted to census work. The Sub-Inspector of Barpeta was the only man who was less than 200 days on tour, his number being 173 days with 170 inspections.

* U Robin Roy was 131 days on tour and made 91 visits or inspections to schools

17. The following statements, which exclude the European school at Shillong, the Cherra Normal School, the Nága Hill schools, Sanskrit *tols*, and the high schools, show the number of schools on the 31st March, the number of schools closed during the year, and the number of visits or inspections made by Deputy or Sub-Inspectors of Schools :

Details of inspections.

Upper and Lower Primary Schools (Government, aided and unaided).

District.	Number of schools on 31st March 1891.	Number of schools abolished during the year.	Number of schools visited				Number of existing schools not visited.	Number of abolished schools visited	Number of abolished schools not visited
			Four or more times	Thrice	Twice	Once			
Cachar ...	190	32	4	24	62	75	25	12	20
Sylhet ...	695	111	19	79	283	270	44	73	38
Goálpára ...	178	15	39	40	58	36	5	11	4
Kámrúp ...	319	15	34	35	99	127	24	7	8
Darrang ...	126	8	75	24	12	10	5	5	3
Nowgong ...	175	13	95	50	15	6	9	7	6
Sibságar ...	257	54	87	55	47	58	10	49	5
Lakhimpur ...	97	10	35	30	12	14	6	4	6
Jaintia Hills* ..	63	2	12	19	13	9	10	1	1
Gáro Hills ...	31	13	5	2	8	9	7	7	6
Total	2,131	273	405	358	609	614	145	176	97

* Return for Khási Hills not furnished

Middle English and Vernacular Schools (Government, aided and unaided).

Cachar ...	2	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	1
Sylhet... ...	39	1	3	8	16	11	2	1	.....
Goalpára ...	15	.....	8	5	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kámrúp ...	12	.....	3	.....	5	4	.....	.....	.....
Darrang ...	5	.....	5	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nowgong ...	4	.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Sibságar ...	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	.....
Lakhimpur ...	6	.....	5	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jaintia Hills* ...	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	89	3	28	16	25	17	3	2	1

* Return for Khási Hills not furnished

Normal Schools and Training Classes.

Cachar	2	...	.....	.....	1	.....	1	...	...
Sylhet	1	...	.....	.....	1	.....	...	...	..
Kamrup ...	3	...	1	1	.....	.....	1	...	...
Darrang ...	3	...	3	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Nowgong ...	2	...	2	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Sibságar ...	1	...	1	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Lakhimpur ...	1	...	1	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Gáro Hills ...	2	...	2	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Total	15	...	10	1	2	.....	2	...	...

The figures for Goálpára include the 12 Gáro schools along the borders of the Gáro Hills which are under the administration of the American Mission, Tura, and the visits paid to these schools by the Sub-Inspector of the Gáro Hills. An analysis of the figures show that 19 per cent. of the existing schools were visited or inspected four times or oftener, 16 per cent. three times, 28 per cent. twice, 28 per cent. once, and 6 per cent. were not visited at all, against 26, 19, 30, 20, and 3 per cent. for the year before. This shows how much slacker inspection was. One good feature of the year's work is that fewer primary schools were closed than in the year before, the number being 273 against 386, and all districts except Cachar and Sibságar shared in this result. The inspection of middle and normal schools was on the whole satisfactory. Amongst the normal schools, the Gunjong school, North Cachar, and the Mission Girls' School, Gauháti, were the only schools unvisited. Census work prevented either the Deputy or Sub-Inspector seeing the former, and the latter, being a private school, was not visited.

18. Circumstances over which I had no control prevented me doing as much inspection as I should have wished. I was 101 days on tour and made 99 inspections of schools distributed as follows : To high schools 21 visits, to middle English and middle vernacular 20 and 16 respectively, to primary schools 27, to normal 10, and to special schools 5 visits. Besides the visits to schools, I partly inspected the educational accounts of 14 Local Boards, and the general impression I arrived at is that, as a rule, the Boards do not sufficiently supervise their accounts, show little interest in

educational matters, and that the members of Local Boards do little or no inspection, trusting entirely to the work done by the Sub-Inspector of Schools placed at their disposal, and in many cases even the work of the Sub-Inspector is very superficially seen to. Some of the Boards have educational subcommittees. The number of times these subcommittees met has not been stated in the educational reports, and the Local Board reports are not now available, so I am unable to state definitely the number of meetings that have been held. The educational functions delegated to Local Boards include the administration of grants in aid and special grants to middle and primary schools under private management, and the management of Government lower primary schools, which they are authorised to open when funds are available and the school supplies a recognised want, they also have a voice in determining the number, or rather proportion, of pupils and *gurus* to be sent in for training to normal schools, and the conduct of the Lower Primary Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination rests with the sadr Board in each district, the award of these scholarships being vested in the Deputy Commissioner. In some few cases grants in aid to middle schools were given without seeing that the necessary conditions were fulfilled. In each of these cases the attention of the Board concerned was called to the omission, which has subsequently been rectified, and special grants were in more than one instance given for purposes other than those allowed by the rules Complaints have also reached me of great delay in paying the *gurus*, and the results of my inspection showed that these complaints were not unfounded, as I found that in some circles payments were greatly in arrears, as for instance when I visited Karimganj in September last, I found some schools over 12 months in arrears. Now with a little care on the part of a Local Board this should not occur. I do not think there is need for going into further particulars, and the above remarks are not made in a hostile spirit, but rather that by pointing out defects and shortcomings Boards may be assisted in the discharge of their duties.

SECTION III.
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.
[*Nil.*]

SECTION IV.
SCHOOL EDUCATION GENERAL.
(A) Secondary Schools.

19. The following statement gives a comparative view of secondary schools for native boys for the last two years :

	1889-90.			1890-91.		
	Schools	Pupils.	Average number of pupils to a school.	Schools.	Pupils.	Average number of pupils to a school.
High—						
Government ...	11	2,201	200	11	2,114	192
Aided ...	4	519	130	4	507	127
Unaided ...	3	615	205	3	704	235
Total	18	3,335	185	18	3,325	185
Middle English—						
Government ...	2	139	69	2	163	81
Aided ...	32	2,819	88	32	2,863	89
Unaided ...	11	968	88	11	1,009	92
Total	45	3,926	87	45	4,035	89
Middle Vernacular—						
Government ...	15	1,295	86	14	1,193	85
Aided ..	29	1,661	57	29	1,661	57
Unaided ...	4	265	66	3	138	46
Total	48	3,221	67	46	2,992	65
Grand total	111	10,482	94	109	10,352	95

Secondary schools taken as a class show a loss of two schools due to the subhead middle Vernacular, there being a loss of one Government and one unaided school ; but in reality the total number of secondary schools was the same as for the preceding year, as two unaided middle English schools in the Sibságar district, not having furnished returns, are not included in the above statement. The number of pupils decreased by 130, due to a decrease of 10 in high schools and 229 in middle Vernacular, compensated by an increase of 109 in middle English schools. The average number of pupils to each

school increased by one. The changes that occurred in each class of schools and further particulars are given in the following paragraphs, and the columns for expenditure under the heads local and municipal funds and other sources have been separated into four heads, *viz.*, local funds, municipal funds, fees, and other sources. In calculating the cost to the public, the payments from municipal funds have been excluded, and thus the figures for 1889-90 are slightly different from those in last year's report in which municipal funds were included.

Statistics of high schools in each district.

20. The following statement gives in detail the principal statistics of high schools for the year under report, together with the abstracts for the preceding year :

District.	Name of school.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils. On rolls on 31st March.	Number of pupils. Average number on rolls monthly during the year.	Number of pupils. Average daily attendance.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Provincial.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Local.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Municipal.	Direct expenditure. Other sources. Fees.	Direct expenditure. Other sources. Subscriptions, endowments, and other sources.	Direct expenditure. Total.	Cost of educating each pupil. To Government.	Cost of educating each pupil. To the public.	Cost of educating each pupil. Total.
GOVERNMENT.						Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p	Rs. a. p.
Cachar	Silchar	1	164	175	145	3,131	..	..	2,734	..	5,865	17 14 3	15 10 0	33 8 3
Sylhet	Sylhet	1	349	345	268	3,525	..	..	5,875	272	9,672	10 3 6	17 13 1	28 0 7
Goálpára	Dhubri	1	166	155	123	2,182	..	..	2,279	560	5,021	14 1 3	18 5 1	32 6 4
Kámrúp	Gauháti.. ..	1	240	256	211	4,575	..	..	4,525	..	9,100	17 13 11	17 10 10	35 8 9
Darrang	Tezpur	1	201	188	148	3,271	..	..	2,038	..	5,309	17 6 5	10 13 5	28 3 10
Nowgong	Nowgong ..	1	184	193	160	3,138	..	..	3,062	..	6,200	16 4 2	15 13 10	32 2 0
Sibságar	Sibságar ..	1	175	186	146	1,998	..	..	3,119	..	5,117	10 11 10	16 12 4	27 8 2
"	Jorhát	1	305	306	241	-298	..	..	5,050	478	5,230*	.....	17 1 5	17 1 5
Lakhimpur	Dibrugarh ..	1	281	280	190	2,582	..	..	4,043	..	6,625	11 3 7	17 9 3	28 12 10
Nága Hills	Kohima	1	45	38	21	1,830	..	..	....	..	1,830	48 2 6	.....	48 2 6
Khási "	Shillong.. ..	1	54	58	45	2,963	..	..	509	..	3,472	51 1 5	8 12 5	59 13 10
Total of Government schools		11	2,114	2,130	1,768	28,897	..	..	33,234	1,310	63,441‡	13 9 1	16 3 6	29 12 7
Ditto ditto for 1889-90.. ..		11	2,201	2,205	1,771	25,424	..	250	34,079	1,277†	61,030§	11 10 4‖	16 0 6‖	27 10 10
AIDED.														
Sylhet	Habiganj ..	1	263	230	190	....	1,170	..	2,828	380	4,378	5 1 5	13 15 2	19 0 7
"	Sunamganj ..	1	130	131	100	....	1,194	..	1,939	272	3,405	9 1 10	16 14 1	25 15 11
Kámrúp	Barpeta ..	1	83	84	62	....	1,503	200	1,228	215	3,146	20 4 5	17 2 10	37 7 3
Khási and Jaintia Hills..	Shillong Mission .	1	31	30	26	....	..	..	520	1,400	1,920	.....	64 0 0	64 0 0
Total of aided schools		4	507	475	378	....	3,867	200	6,515	2,267	12,849	9 2 8¶	18 7 10	27 10 1
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 .. .		4	519	512	384	....	4,076	..	6,582	2,677	13,335	8 10 2¶	18 1 4	26 11 6
UNAIDED.														
Sylhet . ..	National Institution.	1	270	254	189	....	..	..	2,197	165	2,362	.....	9 4 9	9 4 9
"	Murari Chand ..	1	272	266	178	....	..	..	2,142	1,277	3,419	.....	12 13 8	12 13 8
Sibságar	Sibságar.. ..	1	162	123	83	....	..	..	1,654	527	2,181	.....	17 11 8	17 11 8
Total of unaided schools		3	704	643	450	....	..	..	5,993	1,969	7,962	.....	12 6 1	12 6 1
Ditto ditto for 1889-90.. ..		3	615	575	387	....	..	..	4,084	2,144	6,228	.....	10 13 4	10 13 4
Grand total of Government, aided, and unaided high schools.		18	3,325	3,248	2,536	28,897	3,867	200	45,742	5,546	84,252	10 2 5	15 12 8	25 15 1
Ditto ditto for 1889-90		18	3,335	3,292	2,542	25,424	4,076	250	44,745	6,098	80,593	9 0 7‖	15 7 1‖	24 7 8‖

* Excludes Rs. 298 excess receipts over charges, and includes Rs. 629 spent by Public Works Department on the annual repairs to the Jorhát High School building (Rs. 474 paid from the Williamson Fund and Rs. 155 from Provincial which has been met from the fees of the school).

† Includes Rs. 356 spent by Public Works Department on repairs to the Jorhát High School building from the Williamson Fund.

‡ " " 3,269 ditto ditto on ordinary repairs and renewal to high school buildings from Provincial funds.

§ " " 2,897 ditto ditto ditto ditto ditto ditto ditto.

‖ The cost to Government and to the public for educating each pupil in the Government institutions and the figures in the three last columns in the grand total of cost for all classes of schools for 1889-90 differ from the figures shown in the printed report for last year, as the expenditure paid by the municipality in that year has been transferred from head other sources to the expenditure from Government, and in calculating the cost to Government in the grand total the average number on rolls of the Shillong Mission School has been included in the present return.

¶ In calculating the cost to Government in this class of schools only the average number on the roll of the mission school has been excluded.

The number of departmental high schools at work during the year was, as in the preceding year, 11, but the roll number decreased by 87, the average number on the rolls by 75 and the average daily attendance by 63. The percentage of daily attendance on the average number on the rolls monthly was 80·2 nearly, against 80·3 for the preceding year. The loss of pupils was chiefly due to Silchar, Dhubri, Gauháti, Nowgong, Sibságar and Shillong, and is thus accounted for :

In Silchar there was a decrease of 22 pupils, which the head master attributes to the disturbances on the frontier. Most of the pupils of this school are children or relations of employés, and the difficulty of transit caused by the requirements of the Lushai expedition prevented these employés bringing back their families after the Puja vacation, up to which time the school maintained its normal strength.

The head master of Dhubri, being a new man, has not attempted to account for the falling off of 11 in the roll numbers.

The same cause that was given last year, *viz.*, the prevalence of fever (*kála-azár*) is still given by the head master of Gauháti for a loss of 40 pupils, and I have no hesitation in accepting this as the true reason for the decrease.

In Sibságar there was a loss of 43 pupils, due to the existence of a private school.

The head master of Nowgong says he is unable to account for the decrease of 14 pupils, and states that there has been a general falling off in all schools, which he thinks may be attributed to the prevalence of fever.

In Shillong the loss of 17 pupils was no doubt due to the proposed amalgamation of the Mission High School with the Government High and Normal Schools, which took effect from the 18th April, for as soon as the proposal was known, few if any pupils took admission into any of the schools.

The loss of pupils in the above schools was partly compensated by an increase of 20 in Sylhet and 44 in Jorhát departmental schools.

The total direct expenditure on departmental high schools shows an increase of Rs. 2,411, accounted for as follows : Annual repairs come to Rs. 3,269, against Rs. 2,753 in the preceding year ; the establishment of the Shillong High School was revised at an enhanced cost ; one of the first-grade head masters (Nowgong) returned from furlough, his pay being Rs. 190 per month, against Rs. 95 for the acting man, the annual increments to some of the head masters, and a small increase under the heads books, furniture, &c. Receipts show a decrease of Rs. 812, due to Dhubri, Gauháti, Sibságar, and Shillong. In Dhubri there was a decrease of receipts amounting to Rs. 359. The head master absconded just before the close of the year, and did not account for most of the fees for March and February, which accounts for the falling off. His case is now under judicial enquiry.

In Gauháti and Sibságar there was a decrease in fee receipts of Rs. 478 and Rs. 1,085 respectively, due to the falling off in the number of pupils already mentioned. The decrease of Rs. 251 in fee receipts in the Shillong school was partly due to the falling off in the number attending, as explained above, and further to the fee receipts for the preceding year being for 14 months instead of 12, those for the current year being for 10 months only. This was caused by the unavoidable closing of the school on the 1st April 1890 for the summer vacation, when according to rules the vacation fees, *i.e.*, those for April and May, were collected and deposited in the treasury before the 31st March. This abnormally swelled the receipts for 1889-90 and reduced those for 1890-91. The receipts from fees and other sources, *viz.*, Rs. 34,544, was made up as follows: Fees Rs. 33,234, Goálpára Trust Fund Rs. 560, the Williamson Trust Fund Rs. 474, Mohsin Fund Rs. 272, and a prize Rs. 4.

The net expenditure to Government shows an increase of Rs. 3,473, due to the increase in total expenditure above noticed, combined with the decrease in fees. Thus Government bore 45·5 per cent. of the total expenditure, against 41 per cent. for the year 1889-90. I think it is worthy of note that the Jorhát High School is the only school in the Province that is self-supporting, the actual receipts from fees came to Rs. 5,049-12. The direct expenditure, including repairs, &c., came to Rs. 5,230, of which Rs. 474 for repairs was paid from the Williamson Trust Fund, and Rs. 4 from the Gunabhiram Fund for prizes, leaving a net profit of Rs. 298. This school is now the second largest in the Province, and the staff of teachers is not able to do justice to so many pupils. Steps will be immediately taken after the summer vacation for strengthening the staff either by the appointment of another teacher or the transfer of one from one of the other schools where the number attending has fallen off.

The four aided schools show a loss of 12 pupils, 37 in the average number on the rolls monthly, and 6 in the average daily attendance, but the percentage of daily attendance on the average number on the rolls has risen from 75 to 79 per cent., and thus these schools in this respect have regained the ground lost in the preceding year. The loss of pupils was due to all schools except Habiganj, where there was a gain of 16 pupils. The total expenditure shows a decrease of Rs. 486, the receipts from fees and other sources a decrease of Rs. 477, while the expenditure from local and municipal funds only fell off by Rs. 9. The Barpeta Aided High School is in a most unsatisfactory condition, and unless the managers raise funds to place it on a sound financial footing I fear it will collapse.

The three unaided schools show an increase of 89, 68, and 63 in the roll number, average number on the rolls monthly, and in daily average attendance respectively. The percentage of daily attendance on the average number on the rolls monthly was nearly 70, against 67·3 for the preceding year. The expenditure increased by Rs. 1,734, the greater part of which was due to the unaided high school at Sibságar.

To sum up, taking high schools as a whole, there was a loss of 10 pupils on the 31st March, 44 in the average number on the rolls monthly, and 6 in the average daily attendance, but there was a slight increase in the percentage of daily attendance on the average number on the rolls monthly, as this figure was 78· against 77·1 for 1889-90, distributed as follows : in departmental high school 80·2, in aided 79, and in unaided nearly 70 The total direct expenditure on high schools increased by Rs. 3,659 and the receipts by Rs. 445; of the total expenditure 60·8 per cent., against 63 per cent. for 1889-90, was covered by receipts.

21. The subjoined table shows the classification of pupils in high schools according to religion for the last five years :

Classification of pupils in high schools according to religion.

Year.	Number on rolls on 31st March.	Hindus.	Percentage.	Mussalmans.	Percentage.	Others.	Percentage.
1886-87 ...	3,037	2,549	83·93	410	13·5	78	2·57
1887-88 ...	3,273	2,720	83·10	433	13·23	120	3·67
1888-89 ..	3,339	2,724	81·58	464	13·90	151	4·52
1889-90 ...	3,335	2,727	81·77	440	13·19	168	5·04
1890-91 ...	3,325	2,770	83·31	418	12·57	137	4·12

The only points to be noted on are (1) that the Hindus have regained the position lost in the two preceding years, and (2) that the number and percentage of Muhammadans and others attending high schools has slightly fallen off.

State of instruction of pupils in high schools.

22. Of the 3,325 pupils in high schools 988, or 29·7 per cent., were returned in the high stage ; 897, or 26·9 per cent., in the middle stage ; 612, or 18·4 per cent., in the upper primary stage ; and 813, or 25 per cent., in the lower primary stage, against 28·3, 26·4, 19·3, and 25·9 per cent. for the preceding year. The changes are so slight that they scarcely require any explanation ; but one inference I think may be drawn, and that is that of late years there has been a tendency on the part of the people to be more careful about sending young children to high schools, and that when once admitted, a larger percentage than formerly continue their school career, and this I think is a matter for congratulation.

Comparison of the Entrance Examination for the last two years.

23. The following statement compares the success of the several high schools at the Entrance Examination for the last two years. Private students and teachers are excluded. The comparative result for the last five years is given in Appendix A :

Name of school.	1890.							1891.							Merit mark.	
	Roll number on 31st March.	Number of candidates.	Number passed in: First division.	Second division.	Third division.	Total.	Number of scholarships.	Roll number on 31st March.	Number of candidates.	Number passed in: First division.	Second division.	Third division.	Total.	Number of scholarships.	1890.	1891.
Sylhet Government	329	30	4	11	9	24	6	349	23	3	6	4	13	5	43	25
Dhubri ditto	177	17	1	..	4	5	1	166	11	1	3	4	8	5	7	13
Habiganj Aided	247	12	..	3	5	8	1	263	18	..	5	1	6	1	11	11
Dibrugarh Government	234	4	1	3	..	4	4	231	8	2	2	1	5	3	9	11
Silchar ditto	186	9	1	1	4	6	1	164	15	..	3	4	7	2	9	10
National Institution, Sylhet Private ..	251	9	1	2	3	6	1	270	11	..	4	..	4	1	10	8
Gauháti Government	280	11	1	5	4	10	5	240	10	..	2	2	4	2	17	6
Shillong Mission	36	8	..	2	1	3	3	31	5	.	2	2	4	3	5	6
Jorhát Government	261	9	2	4	3	9	4	305	11	..	2	1	3	2	15	5
Sibságar ditto	218	7	..	4	2	6	3	175	3	1	1	..	2	2	10	5
Tezpur ditto	203	4	1	1	2	4	1	201	5	..	2	1	3	3	7	5
Sunámganj Jubilee Aided	144	8	..	2	3	5	..	130	9	..	1	2	3	1	7	4
Nowgong Government	198	6	1	..	3	4	1	184	7	.	1	2	3	3	6	4
Shillong ditto	71	6	1	2	1	4	3	54	2	..	..	1	1	1	8	1
Murarichand Private	242	13	..	2	4	6	..	272	17	..	..	1	1	..	8	1
Barpeta Aided	92	2	..	2	..	2	..	83	1	..	..	1	1	..	4	1
Kohima Government	44	1	..	..	1	1	..	45	....	..	..	..	..	..	1	....
Besharua High, Sibságar	...	....	..	..	..	....	..	162	6	..	..	..	..	..	....	....
Total	3,213	156	14	44	49	107	34	3,325	162	7	34	27	68	34	177	116

The schools have been arranged according to the merit mark, that is, by crediting each school with three, two, and one marks for each boy passed in the first, second, and third division. The Sylhet Government school, as usual, stands first both as regards the actual number of candidates passed and the merit mark, but the first place on the pass and scholarship list was secured by a pupil from the Dhubri school, while one of the Sylhet pupils gained the second place (*see* Appendix B, where full details of the award of scholarships are given). From Assam 162 candidates appeared at the Entrance Examination, and 68, or 41 per cent., passed, distributed as follows : Government schools 51 per cent., aided schools 42 per cent. and private schools 14 per cent. The seven passes in the first division were secured by pupils from Government schools, and out of 34 passed in the second division 28 were from Government, 8 from aided and 4 from private schools. For all candidates at the Entrance Examination 42 per cent. were successful. Thus the departmental schools, Assam, did better than the average, but the unaided schools did very badly.

School accommodation.

24. For the aided high school at Sunámganj a new building with a corrugated-iron roof was erected during the year and occupied in the latter part of December. The Williamson School house, in which the Jorhát High School is located, is in bad repair, and is now too small for the number of pupils attending, so it has been decided to build a new school house, and administrative sanction has been accorded. A plan for improving the school house at Silchar and roofing it with corrugated iron was sanctioned during the year ; but I regret to have to record

that before the work was begun the building was set fire to, the *pucca* house was completely gutted and the *kutcha* building entirely destroyed, but as the masonry walls have not been much injured I trust that the building will be renewed during the next cold weather ; in the meantime steps are being taken to provide temporary accommodation for the school. As mentioned in paragraph 26 of last year's report, the Habiganj Aided High School was located in temporary buildings These, together with most of the school property, were destroyed by fire towards the close of the year. Pressure is now being brought on the managers either to build a *pucca* house or a *kutcha* one with a corrugated-iron roof.

Boarding houses.

25. Boarding houses are maintained in connection with seven of the departmental high schools, and are capable of accommodating 164 inmates. On the 31st of March there were only 110 boarders, but the average number during the year was much greater, as many boarders left after the examinations in February. At Sylhet a capitation grant is allowed to approved masters for boarding pupils. There were 16 such boarders (ten Hindus and six Muhammadans) on the 31st March. At the chummery, Sibságar, the head master reports that there were no boarders on the 31st March. The total cost of the boarding-houses came to Rs. 3,322, *viz.*, Rs. 1,476 on establishments and capitation grants and Rs. 1,846 on construction and repairs. Full details are given in Appendix C. There is also a boarding house attached to the Sunámganj Aided High School capable of accommodating 30 inmates. On the 31st March there were nine boys living in these houses, against 12 on the same date for the year before. The head master reports that the number would have been greater had not the boarding houses been occupied by the school up to the latter part of December.

26. As in last year's report, a statement, as far as information was available, has been prepared to show the present position of pupils who withdrew from the first classes of high schools during the year. The statement excludes the boys who went up for the Entrance Examination. Full details are given in Appendix D, and here it is only necessary to state that out of 95 boys who left school, 21 received appointments, 17 are apprentices, two have died, and of the balance, 55, nothing is known.

27. In February there were 68 Assam students reading in the first-year classes of Bengal Colleges, 69 in second-year classes, of whom 31 successfully passed the F. A. Examination, 31 in third-year classes and 19 in fourth-year classes, of whom 4 successfully passed the B.A. examination. See Appendix E.

Statistics of boys' middle English schools.

28. The following statement gives the principal particulars of boys' middle English schools for the year under report, with abstracts for the year before :

District.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils. On rolls on 31st March.	Average number on rolls monthly during the year	Average daily attendance.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Provincial.	Local Fund	Municipal	From other sources. Fees.	Subscriptions, endowments, and other sources.	Total.	Cost of educating each pupil. To Government.	To the public	Total.
					Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Departmental.													
Cachar..	1	80	78	59	617	....	....	394	....	1,011	7 14 7	5 0 10	12 15 5
Goálpára	1	83	73	57	524	....	325	440	1	1,290	11 10 1	6 0 8	17 10 9
Total of Government schools.	2	163	151	116	1,141	....	325	834	1	2,301	9 11 4	5 8 6	15 3 10
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 ..	2	139	139	111	1,718	....	300	751	....	2,769	14 8 4*	5 6 5*	19 14 9*
Aided													
Cachar..	1	169	161	126	....	480	....	1,004	111	1,595	2 15 8	6 14 10	9 14 6
Sylhet	19	1,800	1,630	1,281	....	7,754	88	8,098	3,616	19,556	4 13 0	7 3 0	12 0 0
Goálpára	8	208	179	133	....	1,187	....	304	1,867	6,358	6 10 1	12 2 1	18 12 2
Kámrúp . ..	3	171	143	117	....	1,200	....	585	835	2,620	8 6 3	9 14 11	18 5 2
Darrang	1	75	84	64	....	626	....	352	517	1,495	7 7 3	10 5 6	17 12 9
Nowgong	1	83	79	63	....	325	....	287	56	668	4 1 10	4 5 6	8 7 4
Sibságar	1	104	99	64	....	730	....	782	322	1,824	7 4 4	11 2 5	18 6 9
Lakhimpur	2	153	117	81	....	584	....	368	330	1,282	4 15 10	5 15 5	10 15 3
Manipur†	1	109	101	59	369	....	....	....	553	922	3 10 5	5 7 7	9 2 0
Total of aided schools ..	32	2,865	2,593	1,988	369	12,876	88	11,780	8,207	33,320	5 2 3	7 11 4	12 13 7
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 ..	32	2,819	2,555	1,939	512	12,650	520	11,268	9,717	34,667	5 5 8*	8 3 5*	13 9 1*
Unaided													
Sylhet	5	308	280	213	....	....	....	463	1,994	2,457	.....	8 12 5	8 12 5
Sibságar	2	185	177	131	....	....	....	2,458	....	2,458	.....	13 14 2	13 14 2
Khási and Jaintia Hills .	4	516	472	314	....	....	125	798	6,314	7,237	0 4 3	15 1 1	15 5 4
Total of unaided schools ..	11	1,009	929	658	....	....	125	3,719	8,308	12,152	0 4 3	12 15 2	13 3 5
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 ..	11	968	921	662	....	....	....	3,130	7,856	10,986	.....	11 14 10	11 14 10
Grand total of departmental aided and unaided schools.	45	4,035	3,673	2,762	1,510	12,876	538	16,333	16,516	47,773	4 10 3	8 15 1	13 9 4
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 ..	45	3,926	3,615	2,712	2,230	12,650	820	15,149	17,573	48,422	5 13 3*	9 0 10*	14 14 1*

* The cost of educating each pupil in Government and aided schools and that in the grand total differ from those printed in the last year's report owing to the transfer of the municipal expenditure from the head other sources to the head Government.

† Statistics for 11 months only.

The departmental middle English schools were two, as in the preceding year, and both schools show improvement in the roll number and daily attendance, but the percentage of the latter fell from 79 to 76 per cent. of the average number on the rolls monthly. The receipts from fees shows an increase of Rs. 83, and the cost to Government, including municipal expenditure, a decrease of Rs. 552. Thus on the whole these schools cost Rs. 468 less than in 1889-90, and the receipts covered 36 per cent. of the total expenditure, against 27 per cent. for the year before.

There was no change in the number of aided middle English schools, which was 32 as in the preceding year; but the aided middle English school at Sylhet was closed, and its place was supplied by the raising of the middle Vernacular school at Pagla, Sunámganj, to a middle English school. There was a slight increase in the roll number, which would have been larger, but for the falling off in Cachar, Darrang and Sibságar, which respectively show a loss of 12, 20, and 42 pupils. The percentage of daily attendance on the average number on the rolls monthly rose from 75·8 to 76·6 per cent. Fees show an improvement of Rs. 512, while subscriptions, &c., fell off by Rs. 1,510. The latter was probably due to less being spent on buildings, &c. Of the total expenditure, 59·9 per cent., against 60·5 in the preceding year, was covered by receipts.

The changes in the unaided middle schools are the following—In Sylhet one school closed, but three new schools were started; in Sibságar only two schools submitted returns, but there were four schools actually at work during the year, and a fifth school for part of the year; and in the Khási Hills the loss of one school is due to the transfer of the Mauphlang school to the list of lower primary schools, as when I visited the school I found that the pupils were not beyond the lower primary stage, and further, no attempt had ever been made to teach the middle standard, although the school had been returned as a middle school for some years. On the whole, there were 11 schools that furnished returns; the number on the rolls and average strength increased by 41 and 8 respectively, while the daily attendance decreased by 4. The percentage of daily attendance on the average strength fell from 71·8 to 70·8 per cent., and was worst in the Khási and Jaintia Hill schools, where it was only 66·5 per cent.

For all middle English schools, while their number remained the same, there was an increase of 109 pupils, 58 in the average number on the rolls monthly, and 50 in attendance, which was, as in the preceding year, 75 per cent. of the average strength. The total expenditure decreased by Rs. 649, the fees increased by Rs. 184, while contributions, &c., fell off by Rs. 1,057. Of the total expenditure 68 per cent. was covered by receipts, against 67 per cent. for 1889-90.

Classification of pupils in boys' middle English schools according to religion.

29. During the late disturbance at Mánipúr the school house and all records were destroyed, so that the 100 pupils attending this school have not been included in this or the statistics in the following paragraph. Of the remaining 3,935 pupils in middle English schools, 2,717, or 69·05 per cent., were Hindus, 684, or 17·38 per cent., Muhammadans, and 534, or 13·57 per cent., were of other denominations.

Stage of instruction.

30. Excluding the 100 pupils of the school at Manipur there remain 3,935 pupils 8 of whom, having passed the middle examination and remained on at middle English schools, have been entered in the high stage; 678, or 17·23 per cent., were in the middle stage; 971, or 24·68 per cent., were in the upper primary stage; and 2,278, or 57·89 per cent., were in the lower primary stage. Comparing this with the figures in paragraph 32 of last year's report, we see there has been an increase both numerically and proportionately in the middle stage with a corresponding loss in the upper primary stage.

Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination for middle English schools.

31. The result of the examination for middle English schools is given in the subjoined table. These schools compete for both middle English and middle Vernacular scholarships and pass certificates, the middle English standard differing from the middle Vernacular in that English is added on as a language.

District.	Number of middle English schools.				Number of schools sending examinees.								Number of examinees.								Number passed.								Number who gained middle English scholarships.	Number who gained middle Vernacular scholarships.
					Government.		Aided.		Unaided		Total.		Government.		Aided.		Unaided.		Total.		Government.		Aided.		Unaided.		Total.			
	Government.	Aided.	Unaided.	Total.	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	English.	Vernacular.	English.	Vernacular.	English.	Vernacular.	English.	Vernacular.	English.	Vernacular.	English.	Vernacular.	English	Vernacular.	English.	Vernacular.		
Cachar ..	1	1	..	2	1	1	1	1	..	..	2	2	4	6	6	10	..	..	10	16	3	4	5	7	..	..	8	11	1	2
Sylhet ..	..	19	5	24	..	..	18	18	..	..	18	18	..	.	50	56	..	..	50	56	..	..	41	48	..	..	41	48	5	3
Goálpára ..	1	3	..	4	1	1	2	2	..	..	3	3	2	1	3	1	..	..	5	2	2	1	1	3*	..	..	3	4	1	..
Kámrúp ..	..	3	..	3	..	..	3	2	..	..	3	2	..	..	6	3	..	..	6	3	..	..	1	3	..	..	1	3	1	..
Darrang ..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	..
Nowgong ..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sibságar ..	..	1	2	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lakhimpur ..	..	2	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Khási Hills ..	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	14	..	14	..	..	..		..	4	..	4	..	..	..
Manipur ..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	32	11	45	2	2	27	25	1	1	29	28	6	7	68	71	14	..	88	78	5	5	50	62	4	..	59*	67	10	5

* Does not include three private students who passed.

Out of 45 schools, 29 competed and 28 were successful in passing candidates, against 28 and 27 for the preceding year. From these 29 schools 88 candidates for the middle English and 78 for the middle Vernacular examinations were sent up, and 59 and 67 successfully passed, against 75 and 66 candidates respectively for the preceding year, of whom 58 and 55 were successful. For both tests out of 166 candidates, 126, or 75·8 per cent., were successful, against 80 per cent. for the year before.

Statistics of boys' middle Vernacular schools.

32. The following table gives the principal particulars of boys' middle Vernacular schools for the year under report, and abstracts for the preceding year :

District.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils.			Direct expenditure.						Cost of educating each pupil.		
					From Government.			From other sources					
		On rolls on 31st March.	Average number on rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance	Provincial.	Local Funds.	Municipal.	Fees.	Subscriptions, endowments, and other sources.	Total.	To Government.	To the public.	Total.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Government—													
Cachar	Closed on 31st March 1891.				85	....	..	3	....	88	Closed on 31st March 1891.		
Sylhet	3	162	153	117	1,057	....	..	476	....	1,533	6 14 6	3 1 9	10 0 3
Kámrúp	5	389	401	297	2,439	....	..	1,482	....	3,921	6 1 4	3 11 2	9 12 6
Darrang	2	213	188	152	1,321	....	..	624	....	1,945	7 0 4	3 5 1	10 5 5
Nowgong	1	125	141	115	963	....	..	631	....	1,594	6 13 3	4 7 7	11 4 10
Sibságar	1	113	112	93	1,027	....	..	667	....	1,694	9 2 9	5 15 3	15 2 0
Lakhimpur	2	191	188	150	1,094	....	..	1,123	....	2,217	5 13 1	5 15 7	11 12 8
Total of Government schools..	14	1,193	1,183	924	7,986	...	..	5,006	....	12,992	6 12 0	4 3 9	10 15 9
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 ..	15	1,295	1,232	1,006	8,538	....	..	4,896	....	13,434	6 14 11	3 15 7	10 14 6
Aided—													
Sylhet	11	851	795	635	....	2,667	..	2,711	1,487	6,865	3 5 8	5 4 6	8 10 2
Goálpára..	9	375	364	262	....	1,824	..	406	2,143	4,373	5 0 2	7 0 1	12 0 3
Kámrúp	4	228	188	160	....	583	360	488	313	1,694	4 12 0	4 4 2	9 0 2
Darrang	2	47	50	34	....	420	..	60	314	794	8 6 5	7 7 8	15 14 1
Nowgong..	1	58	55	42	....	200	..	211	143	654	5 7 3	6 7 0	11 14 3
Sibságar	1	60	26	23	....	60	..	70	109	239	2 4 11	6 14 2	9 3 1
Lakhimpur	1	42	26	26	....	240	..	61	242	553	9 3 8	11 10 6	20 14 2
Total of aided schools ..	29	1,661	1,504	1,182	....	6,044	360	4,007	4,751	15,162	4 4 2	5 13 2	10 1 4
Ditto for 1889-90 ..	29	1,661	1,507	1,151	....	6,289	360	3,805	4,945	15,399	4 6 7*	5 12 11*	10 3 6
Unaided—													
Sylhet	1	19	19	14	....	....	..	71	120	191	.....	10 0 10	10 0 10
Goálpára..	1	30	35	30	....	....	..	98	364	462	.....	13 3 2	13 3 2
Nowgong . ..	1	89	99	65	....	....	.	133	364	497	.. ...	5 0 4	5 0 4
Total of unaided schools ..	3	138	153	109	....	....	..	302	848	1,150	.....	7 8 3	7 8 3
Ditto for 1889-90 ..	4	265	237	160	....	....	..	476	1,749	2,225	.....	9 6 3	9 6 3
Grand total of departmental aided and unaided schools	46	2,932	2,840	2,215	7,986	6,044	360	9,315	5,599	28,304	5 1 1	5 4 0	10 5 1
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 .	48	3,221	2,976	2,317	8,538	6,289	360	9,177	6,694	31,058	5 1 8*	5 5 4*	10 7 0

* The cost of educating each pupil in aided schools and that in the grand total differ from those printed in the last year's report owing to the transfer of the municipal expenditure from the head other sources to the head Government.

The only change that occurred in the departmental Vernacular schools was caused by the closing of the Katigora School in Cachar, where the number of pupils fell to 12 in March 1890; in its place a lower primary school has been started, which seems to meet the requirements of the neighbourhood better than a middle school. In all districts except Sylhet and Goálpára there was a loss of pupils, that in Kámrúp being chiefly due to the school at Bajali, where the head pandit was reported inattentive to his work. He has since been removed to a subordinate post in the Gauháti middle Vernacular school, and a man from that school sent in his place, so it is expected the school will do better during the next year. The loss of pupils in Sibságar was I think due to the school having to be held in the morning in the girls' school house, and I hope, now that a good school house has been built, to see the number attending improve. In the Nowgong and the Dibrugarh schools there was a loss of 43 and 19 pupils respectively, but in the district reports no reasons have been assigned for the decrease. For all departmental middle Vernacular schools there was a loss of 102 pupils, 49 in the average number on the rolls monthly and 82 in the average daily attendance, which was 78 per cent. of the average strength, against 81·6 per cent. for 1889-90. Kámrúp and Sylhet show the worst attendance, the percentages being 74 and 76 respectively; and these contrast badly with the aided schools of the same class, where the percentages of attendance were 85 and 79·7 respectively. The total expenditure decreased by Rs. 442, and, notwithstanding the loss of one school, the receipts from fees increased by Rs. 110. Thus receipts covered 38·1 per cent. of the total expenditure, against 36·4 per cent. for the year before.

Aided middle Vernacular schools show a loss of one school in Sylhet compensated for by the transfer of the private school at Jorhát to the aided list. The number on the rolls on the 31st March was the same as for the year before, but the average number on the rolls monthly fell off by 3, while the daily attendance increased by 31, and was 78 per cent. of the average strength against 76 for 1889-90. The total expenditure decreased by Rs. 237, while the receipts from fees and other sources increased by Rs. 8 (from fees Rs. 202 with a decrease of Rs. 194 from other sources). Thus of the total expenditure 57·6 per cent. was covered by receipts, against 56·8 per cent. for the year before.

There was a loss of one unaided school, caused, as above mentioned, by the transfer of the school at Jorhát to the aided list. Excluding this school, there was a loss of 57 pupils, 38 in the average number on the rolls monthly and 26 in daily attendance The percentage of daily attendance on the average number on the rolls monthly rose from 67 to 71.

For middle Vernacular schools taken collectively there was a loss of two schools, 229 pupils, 136 in the average strength monthly, and 102 in the daily attendance. The percentage of daily attendance on the average strength was 77·9, a little better than that of the preceding year. The total expenditure decreased by Rs. 1,754, *viz.*, to departmental schools Rs. 442, to aided schools Rs. 237, and to unaided schools Rs. 1,075. The Dumuria private school in Goálpára only cost Rs. 462 in the current year, against Rs. 1,330 for the year before, and this has considerably reduced the receipts, which on the whole fell off by Rs. 957, and thus only 50 per cent. of the total cost was covered by receipts, against 51 per cent. for 1889-90.

Classification of pupils in boys' middle schools according to religion.

33. The details of the classification of pupils in boys' middle Vernacular schools are given in General Table V, and it seems only necessary to state here that of the total number on the rolls 81·22 per cent. were Hindus, 16·39 per cent. were Muhammadans, and 2·39 per cent. were of other denominations, against 81·09, 16·39, and 2·52 per cent. for the preceding year.

Stage of instruction.

34. Of the 2,992 pupils in boys' middle Vernacular schools, 5, having passed the middle examination and remained on at this class of schools, have been placed in the higher stage ; 617, or 21 per cent., were in the middle stage ; 697, or 23 per cent., were in the upper primary stage ; and 1,673, or 56 per cent., were in the lower primary stage of instruction. Comparing with the similar statement in paragraph 36 of last year's report, we see that both the actual number and percentage of pupils in the middle stage show some improvement.

Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination for boys' middle Vernacular schools.

35. The following statement shows the result of the Middle Vernacular Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination for boys' middle Vernacular schools :

District.	Number of middle Vernacular schools.				Number of schools sending examinees.								Number of examinees.				Number passed.				Number who gained middle Vernacular scholarships.
					Government.		Aided.		Unaided.		Total.										
	Government.	Aided.	Unaided.	Total	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	Competing schools.	Successful schools.	Government.	Aided.	Unaided.	Total.	Government.	Aided.	Unaided.	Total.	
Cachar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sylhet ..	3	11	1	15	3	2	11	9	1	1	15	12	11	86	6	103	8	58	4	70	9
Goálpára ..	..	9	1	10	..	..	8	7	1	1	9	8	..	23	3	26	..	15	2	17	4
Kámrup ..	5	4	..	9	5	5	4	2	..	..	9	7	32	21	..	53	17	6	..	23	5
Darrang ..	2	2	..	4	1	1	2	1	..	..	3	2	7	14	..	21	5	3	..	8	2
Nowgong ..	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	9	4	16	3	5	3	11	3
Sibságar ..	1	1	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	..	..	4	1	..	..	1	..
Lakhimpur..	2	1	..	3	2	2	..	..	..	..	2	2	9	..	..	9	7	..	..	7	2
Total ..	14	29	3	46	13	12	26	20	3	3	42	35	66	153	13	232	41	87	9	*137	†25

* Does not include one girl candidate and eight private students who passed

† Ditto ditto one scholarship obtained by a girl.

The number of competing schools was 42 (13 departmental, 26 aided, and 3 unaided) against 39 (14 departmental, 23 aided, and 2 unaided) in the preceding year, and all of these except 6 aided and 1 departmental schools succeeded in passing candidates. From the middle Vernacular schools 232 candidates appeared, and 137, or 59 per cent., were successful, against 198 candidates, of whom 129, or 65 per cent., were successful in the year before. The percentages of passes were distributed to departmental schools 62, to aided 56, and to unaided 69 per cent., against 45, 78, and 80 per cent. respectively for the year before. The departmental schools therefore show a good deal of improvement.

(B) Primary Schools for Boys.

Comparison of boys' primary schools.

36. The following statement gives the comparative statistics of boys' primary schools for the last two years :

Upper Primary Schools for Boys.

	1889-90.			1890-91.		
	Schools.	Pupils.	Average number to each school.	Schools.	Pupils.	Average number to each school.
Local and Municipal Funds ...	3	106	35	3	105	35
Aided	91	3,399	37	97	3,666	38
Unaided	5	300	60	2	117	58
Total	99	3,805	38	102	3,888	38

Lower Primary Schools for Boys.

Government	31	431	14	29	436	15
Local and Municipal Funds ...	1,137	32,490	29	1,121	30,594	27
Aided	611	18,356	30	727	21,769	30
Unaided	166	5,470	33	115	3,432	30
Total	1,945	56,747	29	1,992	56,231	29
Grand total	2,044	60,552	30	2,094	60,119	29

Upper primary schools show a gain of 3 schools and 83 pupils, but for lower primary schools while there was a gain of 47 schools there was a loss of 516 pupils. On the whole there was a gain of 50 schools, but a loss of 433 pupils. Details of the changes are given in the following paragraphs.

37. The subjoined statement gives the particulars of boys' upper primary schools for each district, with abstracts for the year before :

Statistics of boys' upper primary schools.

District.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils. On rolls on 31st March.	Number of pupils. Average number on rolls monthly during the year.	Number of pupils. Average daily attendance.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Provincial.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Local Funds.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Municipal.	Direct expenditure. Other sources. Fees.	Direct expenditure. Other sources. Subscriptions and endowments.	Direct expenditure. Total.	Cost of educating each pupil. To Government.	Cost of educating each pupil. To the public.	Cost of educating each pupil. Total.
Local Board and Municipal Schools.						Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Sylhet..	2	67	53	43	....	449	....	159	....	608	8 7 7	3 0 0	11 7 7
Kámrúp	1	38	37	27	....	....	120	111	....	231	3 3 11	3 0 0	6 3 11
Total	3	105	90	70	....	449	120	270	....	839	6 5 2	3 0 0	9 5 2
Total for 1889-90 ..	3	106	97	75	....	480	120	289	1	840	6 3 0	2 7 7	8 10 7
Aided.													
Cachar	6	166	182	131	....	594	....	238	140	972	3 4 3	2 1 3	5 5 6
Sylhet..	41	1,564	1,442	1,107	....	4,503	....	3,085	2,163	9,751	3 2 0	3 10 3	6 12 3
Goálpára	18	566	514	362	....	1,989	....	576	858	3,423	3 13 11	2 12 8	6 10 3
Kámrúp	10	429	389	315	....	1,260	....	552	168	1,980	3 3 10	1 13 7	5 1 5
Darrang	4	185	174	103	....	459	....	152	371	982	2 10 2	3 0 1	5 10 3
Nowgong	9	362	335	244	....	954	....	378	230	1,562	2 13 7	1 13 0	4 10 7
Sibságar	7	330	290	196	....	904	....	355	229	1,488	3 1 11	2 0 3	5 2 2
Lakhimpur	2	64	46	33	....	190	....	56	163	409	4 2 1	4 12 2	8 14 3
Total	97	3,666	3,372	2,491	....	10,853	....	5,392	4,322	20,567	3 3 2	2 14 1	6 1 3
Total for 1889-90.. ..	91	3,399	3,131	2,365	....	10,396	....	5,005	3,846	19,247	3 5 2	2 13 3	6 2 5
Unaided.													
Sylhet	2	117	91	68	....	....	....	169	....	169	.....	1 13 9	1 13 9
Total	2	117	91	68	....	....	....	169	....	169	.....	1 13 9	1 13 9
Total for 1889-90.. ..	5	300	260	198	....	....	....	369	245	614	.....	2 5 9	2 5 9
Grand total of upper primary schools.	102	3,888	3,553	2,629	....	11,302	120	5,831	4,322	21,575	3 4 9	2 13 9	6 2 6
" " for 1889-90 ..	99	3,805	3,488	2,638	....	10,876	120	5,613	4,092	20,701	3 2 5	2 12 6	5 14 11

The Local Board and Municipal upper primary schools show very little change, the school at Gauháti showing the chief falling off, which may be attributed to the continued unhealthiness of that place. For these schools the daily attendance was, as for the year before, 77 per cent. of the average number on the rolls monthly ; but there was an increase of Rs. 31 under the head fees, while the total expenditure was practically the same. Thus 32 per cent. of the total cost was covered by fees, against 28 per cent. for 1889-90.

Aided upper primaries increased by 6, due to an increase of 1 school in Cachar and 6 in Sylhet, and the failure of a school in Sibságar. In all districts except Nowgong there was a slight increase in the number of pupils, which on the whole came to 267. There was also an increase in the average strength and daily attendance, but the percentage of the latter fell from 75 to 73 per cent. of the average strength. The receipts from fees increased by Rs. 387, and the total expenditure by Rs. 1,320. Receipts covered 47·2 per cent. of the total expenditure, against 45·9 for the year before.

The loss of three unaided schools in Sylhet was due to aid being given to one school in each of the subdivisions of North Sylhet, Sunámganj, and Habiganj, and to three schools in South Sylhet. In Karimganj one aided school closed and an unaided school was transferred to the aided list. Thus 7 unaided schools were brought on to the aided list and as there were only 5 in existence on the 31st March 1890 this shows that 5 new schools sprung into existence during the year under report. The daily attendance of the three schools was 74 per cent. of the average strength, against 76 per cent. for the year before.

For upper primary schools taken together there was a gain of 3 schools, 83 pupils, and 65 in the average strength, with a loss of 9 in the daily attendance, which fell from 75 to 73 per cent. of the average strength. The receipts from fees increased by Rs. 218, and those from subscriptions, &c., by Rs. 230. The total expenditure also increased by Rs. 874. Of the total expenditure, as for the year before, 47 per cent. was covered by receipts.

38. The following table, which gives the result of the Upper Primary Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examination, excludes candidates from secondary schools and also private students:

Result of the upper primary examination for boys' schools.

District.	Number of schools on the 31st March.	Number of schools which sent up candidates.	Number of schools from which candidates passed.	Number of candidates who competed.	Number of candidates who were passed. In the first division.	In the second division.	In the third division.	Passed by grace.	Total.	Number of scholarships awarded.
Cachar ...	6	3	2	26	4	8	2	3	17	7
Sylhet ..	45	30	25	92	14	21	12	5	52	17
Goálpára ...	18	11	7	19	...	7	4	...	11	3
Kámrúp ...	11	10	9	40	1	7	5	1	14	4
Darrang ...	4	4	3	9	...	3	...	1	4	1
Nowgong ...	9	9	7	34	1	5	10	1	17	8
Sibságar ...	7	4	3	14	3	2	2	...	7	3
Lakhimpur ...	2	1	1	3	...	1	1	...	2	...
Total ...	102	72	57	237	23	54	36	11	124*	43

* Excludes 10 candidates who passed from middle schools and 3 girl candidates who passed.

Seventy-two schools competed, of which 57 were successful, against 65 and 58 for the year before. These schools sent up 237 candidates, of whom 124, or 52 per cent., were successful, against 210 candidates, of whom 132, or 62 per cent., were successful in the year before, showing on the average a decrease of 10 per cent. Going into details, Cachar and Lakhimpur alone show improvement, where the passes were 65 and 66 per cent. of the candidates, against 63 and 60 per cent. for the year before. The percentages in the other districts were as follows : Sylhet, 56 against 67 ; in Goálpára 57 against 58 ; in Kámrúp 35 against 50 ; in Darrang 44 against 80 ; in Nowgong 50 against 61, and in Sibságar 50 against 66. The number of scholarships awarded were 43, against, 39. Some of these for the Assam valley were transferred to the Surma valley, as there were not sufficient eligible candidates in the former to take them up.

39. The following statement gives the distribution of boys' lower primary schools, the principal particulars and abstracts for the preceding year :

Statistics of boys' lower primary schools.

District.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils. On rolls on 31st March.	Average number on rolls monthly.	Average daily attendance.	Expenditure. From Government. Provincial	Local.	Municipal.	Other sources. Fees.	Subscriptions and endowments.	Total.	Cost of educating each pupil. To Government.	To the public.	Total.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Departmental—													
Kámrúp	1	9	17	10	..	..	..	..	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Darrang	19	296	244	197	1,006	..	..	..	....	1,006	4 2 0	.....	4 2 0
Sibságar	1	5	5	4	..	..	..	..	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Nága Hills	6	99	99	66	823	..	..	..	....	823	8 5 9	.....	8 5 0
Gáro „	2	27	32	20	204	..	..	..	....	204	6 6 0	.....	6 6 0
Total	29	436	397	297	2,033	..	..	..	....	2,033	5 1 11	.....	5 1 11
Total for 1889-90	31	431	364	265	2,065	..	..	..	....	2,065	6 0 1	.....	6 0 1
Local Fund and Municipal—													
Cachar	121	2,975	2,732	1,905	..	7,584	239	857	545	9,225	2 13 10	0 8 3	3 6 1
Sylhet	159	5,595	5,152	4,215	..	12,083	422	2,926	235	15,666	3 6 10	0 9 10	3 0 8
Goálpára	137	2,984	2,781	1,969	..	8,163	72	751	1,084	10,070	2 15 5	0 10 7	3 10 0
Kámrúp	256	7,552	7,265	4,941	..	15,395	198	2,317	....	17,910	2 2 5	0 5 1	2 7 6
Darrang	94	2,349	2,053	1,220	..	5,391	..	573	18	5,982	2 10 0	0 4 7	2 14 7
Nowgong	97	2,947	2,144	1,488	..	5,540	..	289	....	5,829	2 9 4	0 2 2	2 11 6
Sibságar	173	5,130	4,629	3,322	..	9,902	402	895	69	11,268	2 3 7	0 3 4	2 6 11
Lakhimpur	84	2,062	1,810	1,315	..	4,855	280	874	....	6,009	2 9 0	0 3 4	2 12 4
Total	1,121	30,594	28,556	20,375	..	68,413	1,613	8,982	1,951	80,959	2 7 8	0 6 2	2 13 5
Ditto for 1889-90	1,137	32,490	29,460	21,746	..	72,748	1,556	10,283	2,099	86,685	2 8 4	0 6 9	2 15 1

District.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils. On rolls on 31st March.	Number of pupils. Average number on rolls monthly.	Number of pupils. Average daily attendance.	Expenditure. From Government. Provincial.	Expenditure. From Government. Local.	Expenditure. From Government. Municipal.	Expenditure. Other sources. Fees.	Expenditure. Other sources. Subscriptions and endowments.	Expenditure. Total.	Cost of educating each pupil. To Government.	Cost of educating each pupil. To the public.	Cost of educating each pupil. Total.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Aided—													
Cachar	40	1,084	1,034	766	..	953	..	307	27	1,287	0 14 9	0 5 2	1 8 11
Sylhet	346	11,902	10,949	8,502	.	15,227	120	7,634	688	23,669	1 6 5	0 12 2	2 2 7
Goálpára	13	263	253	184	380	98	..	..	474	952	1 14 3	1 14 0	3 12 3
Kámrúp	34	1,032	1,013	810	..	1,353	..	244	205	1,802	1 5 4	0 7 1	1 12 5
Darrang	4	165	171	91	..	225	..	64	....	289	1 13 9	0 8 6	2 6 3
Nowgong	64	2,368	2,325	1,656	..	3,108	.	625	....	3,733	1 5 5	0 4 4	1 9 9
Sibságar	54	1,594	1,440	959	..	1,387	..	404	11	1,802	0 15 5	0 4 7	1 4 0
Lakhimpur	5	123	131	91	..	167	..	108	....	275	1 4 5	0 13 2	2 1 7
Nága Hills	9	158	152	121	495	..	..	..	925	1,420	3 4 1	6 1 4	9 5 5
Khási and Jaintia Hills	129	2,650	2,706	1,831	5,582	..	..	..	15,943	21,525	2 1 0	5 14 3	7 15 3
Gáro Hills	29	435	439	335	972	..	..	..	1,150	2,122	2 8 5	2 9 11	4 13 4
Total	727	21,769	20,563	15,346	7,429	22,518	120	9,386	19,423	58,876	1 7 5	1 6 5	2 13 10
Ditto for 1889-90	611	18,336	17,236	13,021	7,873	20,272	197	7,853	18,128	54,333	1 10 4	1 8 2	3 2 6
Total of Government, local, and aided *pathsálas*	1,877	52,799	49,516	36,018	9,462	90,931	1,733	18,868	21,374	1,41,868	2 1 0	0 12 10	2 13 10
Ditto ditto for 1889-90 ..	1,779	51,277	47,060	35,042	9,938	93,020	1,753	18,135	20,237	1,43,083	2 3 7	0 13 1	3 0 8
Unaided—													
Cachar	12	318	287	233	..	..	..	72	34	106	.....	0 5 11	0 5 11
Sylhet	67	2,086	1,767	1,549	..	..	..	1,155	282	1,437	.....	0 13 0	0 13 0
Goálpára	7	176	145	118	..	..	..	..	47	47	.....	0 5 2	5 5 2
Kamrúp	6	122	128	99	..	..	..	43	....	43	.....	0 5 5	0 5 6
Darrang	2	88	65	39	..	..	..	..	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Nowgong	3	93	105	73	..	..	..	22	....	22	.....	0 3 4	0 3 4
Sibságar	15	483	415	287	..	..	..	75	....	75	.....	0 2 11	0 2 11
Lakhimpur	3	66	56	37	..	..	..	8	....	8	.....	0 2 3	0 2 3
Total	115	3,432	2,968	2,430	..	..	..	1,375	363	1,738	.....	0 9 4	0 9 4
Total of unaided *pathsálas* for 1889-90 ..	166	5,470	4,899	3,905	..	..	..	2,428	311	2,739	.....	0 9 0	0 9 4
Grand total	1,992	56,231	52,484	38,448	9,462	90,931	1,733	19,743	21,737	1,43,606	1 15 2	0 12 8	2 11 10
Ditto for 1889-90 . ..	1,945	56,747	51,959	38,947	9,938	93,020	1 753	20,563	20,548	1,45,822	2 0 3	0 12	2 12 11

Departmental schools.—These are of three kinds :

(1) Those under the Kachari Mission, which were, as in the preceding year, 18 with a roll number of 268 against 266. The average strength was 217 and the daily attendance 179, or 77 per cent. of the average strength. Of the 268 pupils, 97 were Kacharis and 28 Native Christians. Probably these latter are converted Kacharis, but the Secretary of the Mission has not given any information about this in his report. Regarding these schools the Secretary writes :

" I am quite certain, speaking with the experience of a quarter of a century, that these schools are growing in popularity and usefulness, and have in many ways proved a blessing to the Kachari race in this district. Many old pupils now hold offices of trust and importance both in the public and in private services, and planters and others often ask me to recommend ex-pupils of these schools to fill posts of this kind."

(2) The lower primary schools in the Nága and in the Gáro Hills under the administration of the Deputy Commissioners of these districts. The former show some improvement in the roll number and average strength, while the daily attendance remained practically the same. The latter show a loss of two schools and 25 pupils.

(3) The pathsalas attached to normal schools in Kámrúp, Sibságar, and Tezpur. The latter had 28 names on the rolls with a daily attendance of 18, against 20 and 10 for the year before.

For departmental schools taken together, there was a loss of two schools ; the roll number, average strength, and daily attendance shows improvement in actual number, but the percentage of daily attendance on the average strength fell from 75·5 to 75 per cent.

Local Fund and Municipal schools.—These schools are of two kinds:

(1) The maintained schools, *viz.*, those entirely supported by fixed pay and fees. These schools are situated in backward parts, where Local Boards do not think the combined system would work.

(2) Combined schools, *viz.*, those to which a small fixed salary is given, supplemented by rewards and fees.

For the above schools there was a decrease of 16 schools, a loss of 1,896 pupils, 904 in average strength, and 1,371 in the daily attendance. In most of the districts the change in the number of pupils corresponded with the changes in the number of schools, Kámrúp and Darrang proving the great exceptions, as in the former with a gain of 2 schools there was a loss of 463 pupils, and in latter with a gain of 4 schools there was a loss

of 114 pupils. For Kámrúp the prevalence of fever and high floods has been assigned as the reason for this falling off; for Darrang the loss of pupils has been attributed by the Deputy Inspector to the prevalence of malarious fever in the western part of Mangaldai and slack supervision on the part of the Sub-Inspectors. For this class of schools taken together the daily attendance was 71 per cent. of the average strength, against 73 per cent. for 1889-90. Fees show a decrease of Rs. 1,300, and receipts from other sources Rs. 148. The total expenditure also shows a decrease of Rs. 5,726. Of the total expenditure, 13 per cent. was covered by receipts, against 14 per cent. for the year before.

Aided Schools.—The aided schools are (1) those under the direct administration of the several Mission bodies, *viz.*, under the Santal Mission in Dhubri subdivision 1 school with 33 pupils; under the American Mission 12 schools with 230 pupils along the borders of the Gáro Hills in the Goálpára district; in the Gáro Hills 29 schools with 435 pupils; in Kámrúp 11 schools with 291 pupils amongst the Gáro population in the hills to the south west of Gauháti; and in the Nága Hills 9 schools with 153 pupils; and under the Welsh Mission in the Khási and Jaintia Hills 129 schools with 2,650 pupils.

The schools in the Khási and Jaintia Hills increased by 3, but the pupils fell off by 177. I am unable to give any explanation as the annual report of the Sub-Inspector of the Khási Hills has not yet reached me. The Gáro Hills show a loss of 2 schools and 61 pupils. Regarding the aided schools in the Gáro Hills and Goálpára under the American Mission the Secretary writes—

"There have been 12 new schools opened during the year, 2 of them in Goálpára and 10 in the Gáro Hills, and 13 have been closed. Five others have been opened, but not yet reported."

Again.—

"The desire for schools is evidently increasing, though slowly, and we now have more schools in the interior than before."

From this it appears that there were 5 schools at work during the latter part of the year which did not submit returns in time to have them included in the report: (2) those *pathsalas* supported by rewards and fees alone. Sylhet shows a large increase under this class, the schools having risen from 250 with 8,392 pupils, to 346 schools with 11,902 pupils, and this was general in all subdivisions except Karimganj, where the number of schools fell from 48, with 1,448 pupils, to 43 schools with 1,342 pupils. For aided schools taken together there was an increase of 116 schools, 3,413 pupils, 3,327 in average strength, and 2,315 in daily attendance, which was 74 per cent. of the average strength, against 75 per cent. for the year before. Fees increased by Rs. 1,533, and subscriptions and other sources by Rs. 1,285. Of the total expenditure, 48 per cent. was covered by receipts, against 47 for the year before.

Unaided schools.—The unaided *páthsálas* were 115 with 3,432 pupils, against 166 with 5,470 pupils. Sylhet accounts for more than the whole loss, as the number fell from 129 with 4,453 pupils, to 67 with 2,086 pupils. In the other districts the changes were unimportant, as may be seen from a comparison of the similar table in paragraph 41 of last year's report. In Sylhet many of the unaided schools returned in last year's report were taken on to the aided list, and this accounts for the apparent falling off. For all unaided schools the daily attendance was 81 per cent. of the average strength, against 79 per cent. for the year before.

A reference to Appendix F shows the progress of lower primary schools for each subdivision. In eleven circles there has been an increase in the number of schools and pupils, and in twelve circles a decrease of pupils. The most marked increase was in South Sylhet, where the schools rose from 133, with 4,497 pupils, to 147 schools, with 5,322 pupils, and was entirely due to the aided list, where the schools rose from 64 with 2,046 pupils, to 95 with 3,431 pupils. Dhubri shows an increase of 6 schools and 154 pupils, and Golághát an increase of 8 schools and 118 pupils. The most marked decrease occurred in Karimganj, where there was a loss of 13 schools and 401 pupils; 8 of these with 256 pupils were from Local Board and aided schools. The Deputy Inspector of the Surma Valley says he is unable to offer any explanation for the falling off, so presumably the Local Board did not offer any explanation in their report to him on education. Habiganj shows a loss of two schools and 153 pupils, due to the unaided schools. Goálpára shows a loss of 170 pupils, while the number of schools remained the same. The Deputy Inspector attributes this to the prevalence of malarious fever, and the same cause is given for the loss of 319 pupils in the Gauháti circle while there was an increase of seven schools. Nowgong also shows a loss of 207 pupils with a gain of 5 schools. This also has been attributed to the unhealthiness of the year. Jorhát shows a loss of 5 schools and 163 pupils. All this would seem to point out that the year under report was especially unhealthy for the circles lying along the left bank of the Brahmaputra. The loss of one school and 125 pupils in North Lakhimpur is attributed to high floods, on account of which

many schools had to be temporarily closed, and these did not recover their former position as to attendance during the year. The other changes were unimportant, except perhaps the loss of 138 pupils in the Khási Hills ; but as the Sub-Inspector's report has not yet reached me, I am unable to offer any explanation.

Excluding the unaided schools, there was a gain of 98 schools, 1,522 pupils, 2,456 in average strength and 976 in daily attendance, but the latter fell from 74·4 per cent. of the average strength to 72·7 per cent. The receipts from fees and from subscriptions, &c., increased by Rs. 233 and Rs. 1,137 respectively, while the total expenditure decreased by Rs. 1,215, showing a net decrease to the State of Rs. 2,585. Of the total expenditure, 28 per cent. was covered by receipts, against 26 per cent. for the year before. This, without any explanation, would show a good deal of financial improvement ; but I fear that this is not really the case. The fact is that all the Sub-Inspectors were engaged on census work during the last quarter of the year, and during that period were not able to hold many examinations for rewards. Orders were, however, issued to pay the teachers for the last quarter or half year on the results of the previous examination, and this was pretty generally done, but still there were a good many schools in arrear pay, and those schools that were paid did not receive as much as they would have got if the examinations had been regularly held, as the previous examinations on which the rewards for the last quarter or half year were calculated were mostly held during the rains, when the attendance is low. Thus on an average these schools did not receive as much as they would have done if the examinations for the last quarter or half year had been held. This has naturally decreased the cost to the State, whereas with an increase of 98 schools the cost should have also increased.

Classification of pupils in boys' upper and lower primary schools according to religion.

40. The following statement gives the classification of pupils in boys' upper and lower primary schools according to religion, and an abstract for the year before :

District.	Number of pupils on rolls on 31st March.	Hindus.	Percentage.	Muhammadans.	Percentage.	Others.	Percentage
Cachar	4,543	2,318	51·02	1,010	22·23	1,215	26·74
Sylhet	21,331	14,142	66·29	6,507	30·50	682	3·19
Goálpára	3,989	2,624	65·78	766	19·20	599	15·02
Kámrúp	8,982	7,412	82·52	892	9·93	678	7·55
Darrang	2,983	2,432	81·53	194	6·50	357	11·97
Nowgong	5,070	4,273	84·28	259	5·10	538	10·61
Sibságar	7,542	6,860	90·96	445	5·90	237	3·14
Lakhimpur	2,315	1,805	77·97	122	5·27	388	16·76
Nága Hills	252	33	13·10	.....	.....	219	86·90
Khási and Jaintia Hills ...	2,650	14	·53	.....	.....	2,636	99·47
Gáro Hills	462	39	8·44	9	1·95	414	89·61
Total	60,119	41,952	69·78	10,204	16·97	7,963	13·25
Total for 1889-90	60,552	42,605	70·36	9,738	16·08	8,209	13·56

Comparing with the similar table in paragraph 42 of last year's report, we find that the number of Hindus has fallen off in every district except Cachar and the Nága Hills, and that there was a total loss of 653 Hindu pupils; that the number of Muhammadans has increased in every district, except Cachar, Darrang, Nowgong and the Gáro Hills ; and that there was a total gain of 466 Muhammadan pupils, and that under other denominations there was a loss of 246 pupils, chiefly due to a loss of 168 Khásias and 107 pupils in Cachar. The percentages vary so little that they need no comments.

Stage of instruction.

41. Full details of the stage of instruction of the pupils in boys' upper and lower primary schools are given in General Table V of the prescribed statements, and, comparing this with the figures given in paragraph 43 of last year's report, we find that, as last year, 15 boys were in the middle stage ; 1,006, or 1·7 per cent., of the pupils were in the upper primary stage, against 1,077, or 1·7 per cent., and 59,098, or 98·3 per cent., against 59,373, or 98·3 per cent., were in the lower primary stage. Of the latter, 10,446, against 9,940, have been returned as not reading (learning) from printed books.

Lower Primary Examination for boys' schools.

42. The following comparative statement shows the result of the Lower Primary Scholarship and Pass Certificate Examinations for boys' lower primary schools for the last two years :

District.	Number of lower primary schools which sent up candidates.		Number of schools from which candidates passed.		Number of candidates who competed.		Number of candidates who were passed. In the first division.		In the second division.		In the third division.		Passed by grace.		Total.		Number of scholarships awarded.	
	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.
Cachar	80	55	42	32	187	133	18	11	33	23*	14	5	1	2	66	41	15	15
Sylhet	282	218	148	173	701	618	104	210	124	113	25	18	15	22	268	363	33	33
Goálpára	49	44	22	20	99	85	12	8	14	19	4	7	4	3	34	32	13	6
Kámrúp	191	218	145	119	684	635	168	61	142	90	26	46	27	37	363	234	33	33
Darrang	43	40	17	29	110	117	13	22	10	18	2	4		6	29	50	8	13
Nowgong	89	68	24	54	300	244	8	32	20	54	1	5		14	36	105	13	12
Sibságar	87	93	60	51	232	230	36	13	36	29	11	9	10	30	93	81	27	26
Lakhimpur	34	38	22	19	115	94	13	8†	18	12	4	7	9	7	44	34	11	9
Khási and Jaintia Hills ..	11	7	11	7	40	32	30	21	4	5	..	..	1	1	35	27	8	10§
Nága Hills	1	1	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	.	..
Total	837	782	491	504	2,470	2,189	403	381	401	363	87	101	78	122	969	967‖	161	157

* Includes 1 girl who passed.
" 1 " " "
" 3 girls " "
§ One girl obtained scholarship.
‖ Exclusive of 7 upper primary schools, which sent up 31 candidates, of whom 19 passed ; of these 1 was a girl.
" of 1 subsidised pathsala " " " 2 " " " 1 "
" of 8 middle schools " " " 69 " " " 35 " ; of these, 3 were girls.

Regarding the setting of examination papers, the same procedure was followed as mentioned in paragraph 44 of last year's report. The number of competing schools fell off by 55, but the successful schools increased by 13. The candidates decreased by 281, while those who passed the examination only fell off by 2. Thus 44 per cent. of the candidates were successful, against 39 per cent. for the year before. The numbers passed in the first and second divisions fell off, while there was a corresponding increase in the numbers passed in the third division and by grace. I think that on the whole the result of this examination may be considered good. There is no doubt that there is a tendency to raise the standard at this examination, or rather to set more difficult questions, from year to year, and this is I believe the cause of the falling off in the number of candidates and passes. From what I have seen during my tour of inspections, I am convinced that lower primary schools are as a rule improving from year to year, and it must be remembered that the number of passes depends in no small measure on the character of the examination. The Deputy-Inspector of the Surma Valley reports that the papers set for his circle were much more difficult than those for the neighbouring districts of Bengal, and has submitted both sets of question papers, a perusal of which clearly bears out his statement. The examination for Central Assam was easier than that for the year before, and the Deputy Inspector attributes, and I believe rightly, the increase of passes in Darrang and Nowgong to this cause.

SECTION V.

SCHOOL EDUCATION, SPECIAL.

43. Under this head are included (1) normal schools, (2) the Artizan School at Jorhát, (3) technical and departmental examinations, and (4) law classes.

Statistics of boys' normal schools.

44. The following table gives the principal particulars of the normal schools for the year under report and an abstract for the year before :

District.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils. On rolls on 31st March.	Average number on rolls monthly.	Average daily attendance.	Direct expenditure. From Government. Provincial.	Local.	Total.	Cost of educating each pupil. To Government.	Total.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Government.									
Kámrúp	1	35	48	40	3,937	411	4,348	90 9 4	90 9 4
Darrang	2	36	33	28	1,305	623	2,212	58 6 9	67 0 6
Sibságar	1	10	15	13	970	358	1,328	88 8 6	88 8 6
Lakhimpur	1	5	14	12	895	451	1,346	96 2 3	96 3 2
Khási and Jaintia Hills (Cherra).	1	34	39	30	4,207	.....	4,743	107 13 11	121 9 10
Total	6	120	149	123	11,314	1,843	13,977	88 4 10	93 12 11
Local Funds.									
Cachar (Gunjong) ...	1	23	34	14	.....	993	993	29 3 4	29 3 4
Training classes at middle schools.									
Cachar (Hailakandi Government).	1	7	21	15	.....	934	934	44 7 7	44 7 7
Sylhet (Girls Aided) ...	1	5*	4	4	.....	218	218	54 8 0	54 8 0
Darrang (Mangaldai Aided).	1	8	14	10	.....	361	361	25 12 7	25 12 7
Nowgong { Government...	1	8	8	6	88	255	343	42 14 0	42 14 0
Nowgong { Raha Aided...	1	11	10	8	.....	229	229	22 14 5	22 14 5
Total	5	39	57	43	88	1,997	2,085	36 9 3	36 9 3
Aided Mission, Gáro Hills ...	1	98	88	74	1,773	.....	3,603	20 2 4	40 15 1
Unaided, Kámrúp ...	1	7	9†	5	.....	.....	.....	....	.....
Grand total	14	287	337	259	13,175	4,833	20,658	54 14 5	62 15 8
Grand total for 1889-90 ...	13	345	349	269	13,879	5,341	21,527	56 11 2	63 8 0

* Besides this, 5 pupils were trained in Dacca Normal School with an expenditure of Rs. 223.

† In calculating the cost, the average number on rolls of the unaided school, Kámrúp, has been excluded.

A comparison of the totals for the last two years show a loss of 58 pupils on the rolls ; this was chiefly, if not entirely, due to the fact that in many schools the pupils to form the first-year class were not sent in before the close of the year, instead of, as should have been done, immediately after the certificate examination in February. While on tour I drew the attention of some of the Deputy Inspectors to this, and the excuse was that Sub-Inspectors were so occupied with census work in February that they were unable to select boys and *gurus* to be sent in for training; the attentions of Deputy Inspectors will now be directed to seeing that proper arrangements are made during the year to select boys to be sent in to normal schools immediately after the examinations are over, so that there be no delay in forming the new classes. The average strength and daily attendance decreased by 12 and 10 respectively, and the percentage of daily attendance on the average strength fell from 77 to 76 per cent. I consider anything below 80 per cent. as bad attendance in a normal school: five schools exceeded this figure, *viz.*, the training class at the Giris School, Sylhet, the school at Tura under the Gáro Mission, and the schools at Gauháti, Tezpur, Sibságar and Dibrugarh. Raha training class just reached 80 per cent., the school at Cherra 77 per cent. and the training classes at Hailákándi and Mangaldai 71 per cent., Nowgong 75 per cent., the unaided school, Kámrúp, 55 per cent., and the school at Gunjong, North Cachar, 41 per cent. The attendance in the Gunjong School was very bad indeed, but it must be remembered that education is in its infancy in the North Cachar Hills, and that most of the pupils in this school are mere beginners, and that it is a difficult matter to get them to attend school at all. The working of the normal schools at Tezpur, Sibságar and Dibrugarh has been so unsatisfactory of late years that it was decided to make radical changes in the financial status of these schools. The result of my inspection of these schools clearly convinced me that the bad success of the pupils of these schools was in no small measure due to carelessness on the part of the staff, so it was decided to make the pay of the staff partly dependant on the results of the certificate examination, and this was done by reducing the fixed pay of the head and second pandits from Rs. 50 and Rs. 20 to Rs. 35 and Rs. 15 respectively, and then allowing them

a capitation grant for each pupil that passes, the amount of this grant will vary from year to year according to the number of pupils, and the scheme has been so arranged that by passing a certain percentage of pupils the teachers can earn their old pay, and for any passed in excess of the fixed percentage they will receive a *bonus*. The change came into effect from the 1st April.

The total expenditure shows a decrease of Rs. 869, but the capitation allowance for the passed pupils of the five training classes was not paid during the official year, so the true expenditure is somewhat greater than that given above.

Normal schools for girls.

45. Under the American Mission there are two schools for training mistresses, *viz.*, one at Gauháti and one at Tura, both entirely supported by the Mission. The school at Gauháti had 11 pupils (8 girls and 3 boys) on the rolls, with a daily attendance of 9. Its object is to train mistresses for the aided Mission schools amongst the Gáro population in the south of the Kámrúp district. The Mission spent Rs. 395 on this school during the year. There were 36 pupils in the school at Tura; most of these are, I believe, mere beginners. I regret I am unable to give any information about this school, as the report from the Mission does little more than mention the existence of this school; but as far as I know neither of these schools has sent out any pupils as mistresses. The Cherra Normal School is a mixed school, that is, there was a class for mistresses as well as boys, and the qualified girls are regularly sent out to teach.

Normal School Examinations.

46. The following statement gives the results of the several Normal School Examinations and an abstract for the year before:

	Vernacular mastership certificate.							Primary school mastership certificate.						
	1st grade		2nd grade.		3rd grade.				Number passed in					
	Number of candidates.	Number passed.	Number of candidates.	Number passed.	Number of candidates.	Number passed.	Total passed.	Number of candidates.	1st grade.	2nd grade.	By grace.	Total passed.	Grand total passed in 1890-91.	Grand total passed in 1889-90.
Cachar .. Gunjong ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cachar .. Hailákándi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	1	..	1	2	2	1
Sylhet (Giris)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	2	2	2
Goálpára .. Goálpára subsidised classes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Kámrup .. Gauháti	5	5	11	6	14	9	20	11	7	..	1	8	28	18
Kámrup .. Chakchaka	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	1	3	3	..
Darrang .. Mangaldai	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2
Darrang .. Tezpur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	3	..	2	5	5	..
Darrang .. " Kachari Mission School	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	3	3	3	..
Nowgong .. Nowgong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	..	..	1	1	3
Nowgong .. Raha	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1	..	..	1	1	..
Sibságar .. Sibságar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	1
Lakhimpur .. Dibrugarh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	1	..	..	1	1	..
Khási and Jaintia Hills. Cherra Punji	4	4	4	1	5	3	8	15	10	3	..	13	21	15
Total	9	9	15	7	19	12	28*	98	27	3	9	39†	67	38

* Besides, 7 private candidates (4 first-year, 1 second-year, 2 third-year) appeared from Sylhet, of whom 4 (second-year 1, third-year 3) passed.

† " 3 " appeared, of whom 2 passed.

Both departments of the Gauháti and Cherra Normal Schools did very well. The normal schools at Tezpur did fairly, having passed 50 per cent. of their candidates. The Giris training class at Sylhet did well, and also the unaided school at Chakchaka, Kámrúp, but all the other schools did badly. A great many of the candidates were plucked in arithmetic, and there was simply no excuse for this, as the papers were not at all hard and were such as should have been well answered by any intelligent lad. The same papers in arithmetic were set for the Primary Schoolmastership Certificate Examinations for the plains and for Cherra, and while nearly all the failures in the plains were in this subject nearly every boy from Cherra obtained passing marks. This I can only attribute to careless teaching. It is hoped that the system of making part of the pay of the teachers, as mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, depend on the result of the certificate examination, will tend to improve these schools. From first-grade departments of normal schools 28 candidates obtained certificates out of 43, against 21 out of 42 for the year before, and for primary schoolmastership certificates 39 out of 98 passed, against 17 out of 88 for the year before. This shows a good deal of improvement especially for Gauháti and Cherra.

Besides the pupils from normal schools, 7 gurus presented themselves for the certificate examination and 3 passed, as follows: From Cachar 3 gurus, one of whom passed, from Darrang and Kámrúp one respectively, and these were successful, and from Nowgong two, both of whom failed.

Artizan School, Jorhát.

47. The Jorhát Artizan School, which is held in connection with the workshop of the Jorhát State Railway, had, on the 31st March, eight names on the rolls, with an average strength and daily attendance of 8 and 7 respectively. For the two scholarships which were to be awarded in the spring there were no candidates, but one of these has since been given to a passed entrance boy who failed to get a junior scholarship. One of the two boys mentioned in paragraph 5 of the Resolution on last year's report, who accepted a scholarship, resigned, the other is still working at the school. In April a drawing master was appointed, and the class opened on the 15th of that month. For, to teach the technical portion of the sub-overseer's course, Government has given sanction to the proposal that an officer of the Public Works Department should be put in charge of this work, but the demand for these officers in connection with work necessitated by the late disturbances on the frontier has prevented the scheme being carried into effect, but no doubt arrangement will be made as soon as possible to place a public works officer in charge of the technical part of the work : in the meantime the pupils are learning drawing and the mechanical portion of their course. A line of boarding houses has been erected for the pupils at a cost of Rs. 983, debited to the Williamson Trust Fund.

The expenditure from the Williamson Trust Fund for the year was as follows:

	Rs.
Contribution to the Jorhát State Railway	375
Pay of chaukidár for Golághát school house	72
Stipends at Jorhát Artizan School	501
„ „ Sibpur	832
Constructions and repairs	1,457
Miscellaneous	8
	3,245

Mechanical apprentice scholarships.

48. For the four mechanical apprentice scholarships tenable at Sibpur reserved for the Assam valley, two of which are of the value of Rs. 15 per month debitable to the Williamson Trust Fund, and two of the value of Rs. 10 per month debitable to Provincial, there were three candidates who passed and obtained scholarships, and for the four similar scholarships for the Surma valley there were six candidates, but only one passed and he obtained a scholarship.

Medical scholarships.

49. There are four medical scholarships tenable at the Dacca Medical School. These are reserved for pupils from schools in the Assam valley. Five candidates appeared at the examination, three of whom passed and were awarded scholarships.

Provisional Certificate Examination.

50. The departmental examination for granting provisional certificate of qualification to teachers and Sub-Inspectors of Schools was held in February, and the result is embodied in the following statement :

	Number who competed.	Number who passed.
Sub-Inspectors	1	1
English masters	9	3
Pandits	6	...

Law classes.

51. There are two law classes in the Province, located at Sylhet and Silchar respectively. These are entirely supported by the fee receipts, and prepare pupils for the Pleadership Examination. The following statement shows the particulars of these schools for the year under report :

District.	Number of institutions.	Number of pupils.			Direct expenditure.						Cost of educating each pupil.		
		On rolls on 31st March.	Average number on rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance.	Government.			Other sources.		Total.	To Government.	To the public.	Total
					Provincial.	Local Fund.	Municipal.	Fees.	Subscriptions and endowments.				
UNAIDED.								Rs.		Rs.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cachar	1	6	7	5	..	....	....	665	....	665	....	95 0 0	95 0
Sylhet	1	13	12	12	..	....	....	915	....	915	....	76 4 0	76 4 00
Total	2	19	19	17	..	....	....	1,580	....	1,580	....	83 2 6	83 2 6

A code of rules for the Sylhet School was drawn up by the head master of the Sylhet Government High School under whose general supervision the law school is placed, and these with slight modifications have been sanctioned by Government. From the Sylhet school 7 candidates appeared at the Pleadership Examination, but only one passed.

SECTION VI.

FEMALE EDUCATION.

52. The changes that occurred in schools for native girls are shown in the following statement :

	1889-90.			1890-91.		
	Schools.	Pupils.	Average number to each school.	Schools.	Pupils.	Average number to each school.
Aided Middle Vernacular ...	2	66	33	2	57	28
Lower Primary, Government ...	1	8	8	1	8	8
Local Fund and Municipal ...	89	1,482	17	99	1,434	15
Aided	31	596	19	17	392	23
Unaided ...	19	328	17	11	192	17
Total ...	142	2,480	17	130	2,083	16

There was on the whole a loss of 12 schools and 397 pupils and a falling off of one in the average number of pupils to each school. The loss of schools occurred in the aided and unaided lists, but the falling off of pupils was general. Fuller details are given in the following paragraph.

Statistics of girls' schools.

53. The subjoined statement gives some of he par ticulars of schools for native girls, with abstracts for e year before :

Girls' Middle Vernacular Schools.

District	Number of institutions	Number of pupils. On rolls on 31st March.	Average number on rolls monthly.	Average daily attendance.	Expenditure. From the State. Provincial.	Local.	Municipal.	Other sources. Fees.	Subscriptions and endowments.	Total.	Cost of educating each pupil. To Government.	To the public.	Total.
					Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs a. p	Rs. a. p.
AIDED.													
Goálpára (Dhubri)	1	32	29	18	..	180	120	..	111	411	10 8 6	3 13 3	14 2 9
Lakhimpur (Dibrugarh)	1	25	24	18	..	185	180	..	65	430	15 3 4	2 11 4	17 14 8
Total aided middle Vernacular schools	2	57	53	38	..	365	300	..	176	841	12 8 9	3 5 2	15 13 11
Total for 1889-90	2	66	60	40	..	420	280	..	150	850	11 10 8	2 8 0	14 2 8
GOVERNMENT.													
Darrang	1	8	7	6	60	..	....	..	..	60	8 9 2	.....	8 9 0
Total for 1889-90	1	8	10	8	60	..	....	..	..	60	6 0 0	.....	6 0 0
LOCAL FUND AND MUNICIPAL.													
Cachar	7	110	80	60	..	129	120	..	..	249	3 1 10	.....	3 1 10
Sylhet	66	825	776	629	..	2,637	....	100	..	2,737	3 6 4	0 2 1	3 8 5
Goálpára	2	33	29	11	..	130	....	..	94	224	4 7 9	3 3 10	7 11 7
Kámrúp	11	264	218	195	..	437	564	..	..	1,001	4 9 6	.....	4 9 6
Darrang	2	22	27	16	..	180	....	..	..	180	6 10 8	.....	6 10 8
Nowgong	2	68	58	47	..	269	....	..	236	505	4 10 2	4 1 1	8 11 3
Sibságar	6	86	83	57	..	204	120	..	..	324	3 14 5	.....	3 14 5
Lakhimpur	3	36	35	20	..	157	....	..	..	157	4 7 9	.....	4 7 9
Total local and municipal schools	99	1,434	1,306	968	..	4,143	804	100	330	5,377	3 12 7	0 5 3	4 1 10
Ditto ditto 1889-90	89	1,482	1,411	1,021	..	4,875	804	44	177	5,900	4 0 5	0 2 6	4 2 11
AIDED.													
Sylhet	5	49	49	38	..	60	....	..	..	60	1 3 7	.....	1 3 7
Goálpára	1	15	16	11	..	85	....	..	137	222	5 5 0	8 9 0	13 14 0
Sibságar	1	48	41	30	..	500	145	..	274	719	10 13 8	6 10 11	17 8 7
Khási Hills	10	280	275	193	748	..	75	117	1,340	2,280	2 15 11	5 4 9	8 4 8
Gáro	..	..	..	....	..	..	....	..	.	....	.....	.....	.....
Total of aided schools	17	392	381	272	748	445	220	117	1,751	3,281	3 11 4	4 14 5	8 9 9
Ditto ditto for 1889-90	31	596	623	465	826	544	300	121	1,453	3,244	2 10 11	2 8 5	5 3 4
Total Government, local, and aided schools	117	1,834	1,694	1,246	808	4,588	1,024	217	2,081	8,718	3 12 8	1 5 8	5 2 4
Ditto ditto for 1889-90	121	2,086	2,044	1,494	886	5,419	1,104	165	1,630	9,204	3 10 0	0 14 1	4 8 1
UNAIDED.													
Cachar	4	55	53	42	..	..	....	..	..	....	.....	.....	.....
Sylhet	7	137	141	122	..	..	....	..	420	420	.....	2 15 8	2 15 8
Total of unaided schools	11	192	194	164	..	..	....	..	420	420	.....	2 15 8	2 15 8
Ditto ditto for 1889-90	19	328	307	246	..	..	.. .	16	360	376	.....	1 5 0	1 5 0
Grand total Government, local, aided, and unaided lower primary schools.	128	2,026*	1,888	1,410	808	4,588	1,024	217	2,501	9,138	3 6 5	1 7 0	4 13 5
Ditto ditto for 1889-90	140	2,414†	2,351	1,740	886	5,419	1,104	181	1,990	9,580	3 2 5	0 14 9	4 1 2

* 1,775 girls. 251 boys.

† 2,020 girls. 394 boys.

Middle schools.—The school at Dhubri shows a falling off in strength, average strength, and daily attendance, and the school at Dibrugarh, while it shows a loss of three pupils on the rolls, kept up the same average strength and daily attendance as for the preceding year. For both schools taken together the daily attendance was 67·9 per cent. of the average strength, against 66·6 per cent. for the year before. Of the total expenditure Rs. 176, or 20 per cent. were contributed by the people, against 17 per cent. for 1889-90.

Lower primary schools.—The departmental girls' school near Tezpur, under the supervision of the Kachari Mission, showed no improvement during the year.

The Local Fund and Municipal schools increased by 10, but the roll number, average strength, and daily attendance fell off by 48, 105, and 53 respectively, chiefly due to bad attendance in Sylhet. The percentage of daily attendance on the average strength increased from 72 to 74 per cent., showing that the pupils were more regular in attending school than for the preceding year. The receipts from fees increased by 56 and from other sources by Rs. 153. The public thus contributed Rs. 430, or 7·9 per cent. towards these schools, against Rs. 221, or 3·7 per cent., for the year before. The increase in the percentage of expenditure covered by receipts is partly due to a decrease in the total expenditure due to a decrease under payments from Local Funds, and this chiefly happened in Sylhet, and is I expect due to arrears being due to these schools, as with an increase of schools there should naturally be an increase in expenditure, but the contrary has happened.

The aided schools show a loss of 14 schools and 204 pupils, due to a loss of 10 schools and 167 pupils in Sylhet, a loss of 13 pupils in Goálpára, and 3 schools and 26 pupils in the Khási and Jaintia Hills. : the school at Sibságar shows an increase of 7 pupils ; the percentage of daily attendance fell from 74 to 71 per cent. of the average strength.

The unaided schools were 11 with 192 pupils, against 19 with 328 pupils. These schools cost Rs. 420, all of which was spent on one mission school at Sylhet, and was paid by the Welsh Mission.

For girls' primary schools taken together there was a loss of 12 schools and 388 pupils, and the district of Sylhet is wholly responsible for this, showing a loss of 14 schools and 436 pupils distributed as follows : North Sylhet, a loss of 2 schools, but a gain of 7 pupils, Sunamgánj a loss of 2 schools and 35 pupils, Hábiganj a loss of 11 pupils, the number of schools not having changed, South Sylhet a loss of 6 schools and 120 pupils and Karimganj a loss of 4 schools and 277 pupils. Regarding the loss of schools in Sylhet, the Deputy Inspector writes—

" These losses apparently point to the fact that due encouragement was not given to the schools which closed during the year under review. "

And again—

" Considering the state of female education, I am afraid any attempt at opening girls' schools purely on the award system, will, at least for some time to come, prove fruitless. The Local Boards must necessarily be liberal in giving grants to girls' schools. "

I believe there is much truth contained in both these statements, and especially the latter, for, looking at the table above, we find that the 5 aided schools in Sylhet only earned Rs. 60 for the year, or an average of Re. 1 per month, and for the year 1889-90 the 15 schools only earned Rs. 159 for the year, or less than Re. 1 per month, and it is quite impossible to expect to develop female education at this rate. The Municipal and Local Board girls' schools were a little better off, getting on an average Rs. 3-3 per month ; but comparing both these with boys' schools, we find that while boys' Local Fund and Municipal schools get on an average Rs. 6-5 per month girls' schools only get Rs. 3-3 per month, and that further boys' schools got on an average Re. 1-6 from other sources against Re. 1 for girls' schools ; that while boys' aided schools got Rs. 3-6, girls only got Re. 1 per month, and again boys' aided schools on an average received from other sources Rs. 2 per month, against nothing in girls' schools ; but in connection with this it is necessary to compare the expenditure per pupil, and here on account of the small number of girls in each school the cost of educating a girl in Local Fund and Municipal girls' schools on an average came to Rs. 3-6-4 to the State, against Rs. 2 6-10 for each boy in similar boys' schools, but in the aided schools the average cost of each girl to the State came to Re. 1-3-7, against Re. 1-6-5 for each boy. However, taking everything into consideration, I consider that the Local Boards in the Sylhet district might be more liberal in their expenditure on female education.

Number of girls in boys' schools and total number of girls under instruction

54. The following statement compares the number of girls reading in boys' schools for the last two years :

District	1889-90.	1890-91.
Cachar	69	162
Sylhet	814	738
Goálpára	209	171
Kámrúp	302	272
Darrang	46	43
Nowgong	170	160
Sibságar	287	314
Lakhimpur	72	61
Nága Hills	46	48
Khási and Jaintia Hills	850	769
Gáro Hills	83	61
Total	2,948	2,799

The number of girls in boys' schools decreased by 149, and this was generally distributed over all districts except Cachar, Sibságar and the Nága Hills, where the number increased, and that most notably in Cachar. If to the 2,799 girls in boys' schools the 1,832 girls in girls' schools and 41 girls in special schools be added, the total number of girls under instruction comes to 4,672, against 5,079 native girls under instruction in 1889-90.

Classification of pupils in girls' schools

55. Classified according to religion, the pupils (boys and girls) in girls' schools stood as follows:

—	Number on rolls on 31st March	Hindus.		Muhammadans		Others	
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage.
Girls—							
Middle schools ...	57	49	85·96	8	14·04	.....	.....
Primary ,, ...	2,026	1,359	67·08	296	14·61	371	18·31
Total	2,083	1,408	67·60	304	14·59	371	17·81

Comparing with the similar statement in paragraph 55 of last year's report, we find that the actual number of pupils under the three heads has fallen off, that the percentage of Hindus has decreased, while those of the other two denominations has slightly increased.

Stage of instruction

56. Full details of the stage of instruction of the pupils in girls' schools is given in General Table V of the prescribed forms, of which the following is a summary. In middle schools 2 girls were in the middle stage, 5 in the upper primary, and 50 in the lower primary; in lower primary schools, one girl was in the middle stage, 33 in the upper primary, and 1,741 in the lower primary stage, an improvement over the year before, when there was only 1 girl in the middle and 6 in the upper primary stage in lower primary schools.

Results of examination

57 The middle school at Dhubri sent up 1 girl to the Middle and 2 to the Lower Primary Scholarship Examinations. The 3 girls passed and gained open scholarships. The lower primary school at Nowgong and the lower primary Bengali school at Shillong sent up 1 and 3 candidates respectively to the Upper Primary Scholarship Examination; one and two respectively passed, and the girl from Nowgong and one of the girls from the

Shillong school gained upper primary scholarship. The result of the lower primary examination for girls' lower primary schools is embodied below :

District.	Number of primary schools sending candidates.	Number of candidates who competed.	Number of schools from which candidates passed.	Number of candidates who were passed.					Number of scholarships awarded.
				In the first division.	In the second division.	In the third division.	Passed by grace.	Total.	
Kámrúp	2	2	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
Nowgong	2	13	2	5	5	...	...	10	1
Sibságar	1	2	1	1	1	...	...	2	1
Lakhimpur	2	2	2	...	2	...	...	2	1
Khási and Jaintia Hills ...	2	4	1	3	...	...	...	3	...
Total	9	23	7	9	8	...	1	18	3

For the examinations taken together there were 30 candidates, of whom 24, or 80 per cent., passed, and of these 8 gained scholarships, which was a very creditable result for the schools concerned ; but I am sorry to say that none of the schools in the Surma valley sent in candidates to the departmental examinations. They however sent in a large number of girls to the examination held by the Sylhet Union, and 353 were successful.

58. The Deputy Inspector of the Surma valley gives the following account of the work of the Sylhet Union :

Sylhet Union.

"The annual examination of the Sylhet Union came off in June last, at which 611 candidates competed and 528 were passed. 353 of the passed candidates were girls from our schools, and 175 were zenana ladies and girls. The number of passed candidates consisted of 74 Muhammadans, 3 Native Christians, 1 Manipuri, and 450 Hindus. The subjoined table gives the results of the annual examination for the last two years :

Year.	Number of applicants for examination.	Number that competed.	Number passed in				Number passed from	
			First division.	Second division.	Third division.	Total.	Zenanas.	Schools.
1890-91 ...	Not furnished	611	202	201	125	528	175	353
1889-90 ...	1,217	603	236	210	84	530	117	413

The following is an abstract of receipts and expenditure of the Union :

Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.	Expenditure.	Rs.	a.	p.
Subscriptions	157	4	0	Prizes	337	12	9
Donations	363	0	0	Scholarships and helps to poor students.	104	12	0
Grants by Local Boards ...	145	0	0	Other heads	286	7	3
Other sources	177	8	9				
Balance of previous year ...	296	10	3				
Total	1,139	7	0	Total	729	0	0

SECTION VII.

EDUCATION OF SPECIAL CLASSES.

(A) European and Eurasian.

59. The aided school at Shillong under Miss Jones is the only school of this class in the Province. It had on the 31st March 17 (8 girls and 9 boys) names on its rolls with an average strength and daily attendance of 37 and 32 respectively, against 24 25, and 21 respectively for the year before. The total expenditure came to Rs. 7,107, of which Rs. 5,087, or 72 per cent., was covered by fees. Of the balance, Rs. 300 was a contribution from the Diocesan Board and Rs. 1,720 came from Provincial Funds, and was on the following account : Grants-in-aid Rs. 1,200, special grant for prizes Rs. 25, and repairs of the building by the Public Works Department Rs. 495. Miss Jones pays Government Rs. 600 per annum for the use of the school house and furniture, so that the maintenance of the building was more than covered by the rent. I held the annual examination of the school in October, and was quite satisfied with the results.

(B) Muhammadan Education.

60. The education of Muhammadans forms part of our recognised system of education, and the special measures taken for encouraging them are given in paragraph 64 of the report for 1888-89. The following statement shows the number and percentage of Muhammadans in the several classes of institutions :

	Total number of pupils.	Number of Muhammadans.	Percentage of Muhammadans.
Public Institutions—			
High schools	3,325	418	12·57
Middle English schools	4,035	684	16·95
Ditto Vernacular ditto	3,049	499	16·37
Upper primary ditto	3,888	558	14·35
Lower ditto ditto	58,257	9,942	17·07
Normal and other special schools ...	541	134	24·77
Total	73,095	12,235	16·74
Total for 1889-90...	74,167	11,914	16·06
Private Institutions—			
Advanced	1,852	363	19·60
Elementary	3,937	3,246	82·45
Total	5,789	3,609	62·34
Total for 1889-90...	4,721	2,665	56·45
Grand total	78,884	15,844	20·08
Grand total for 1889-90	78,888	14,579	18·48

The above shows a real and percentage increase in the number of Muhammadan pupils in both public and private institutions. In the former the increase occurred in primary schools, while there was a slight falling of in high, middle Vernacular, and special schools. The increase under private institutions was chiefly due to Sylhet.

61. The following shows the expenditure from the Mohsin Fund:

	Rs.
Part pay of Maulvis of Sylhet Government High School ...	264
Scholarships at Rs. 3...	310
Two-thirds schooling fees	214
Prizes	8
Total	796

62. At the Entrance and several dep artmental examinations, out of 1,524 passed candidates 162 were Muhammadans and 31 gained scholarships, against 1,553, 151, and 24 respectively for the year before. The increase of passes occurred in middle Vernacular schools, and this is the more remarkable, as it was in that class of schools that the number of Muhammadan pupils fell off. The details are given in the subjoined statement.

	Number of successful candidates.		Scholarships.
	Total.	Muhammadans.	
Entrance Examination	70	8	7
Middle English Examination ...	62	4	1
„ Vernacular Examination ...	213	33	4
Upper Primary Examination ...	137	16	9
Lower „ „ ...	1,042	101	10
Total	1,524	162	31

Phulbari Madrasa, Sylhet.

63. The Phulbari Madrasa shows some improvement. It had on the rolls on the 31st March 129 names with an average strength and daily attendance of 116 and 90 respectively. The expenditure from the estates came to Rs. 441. It sent up six candidates to the Reward Examination and 4 passed successfully.

SECTION VIII.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

64. The following statement includes all private schools that have furnished returns:

District.	Advanced teaching.						Elementary, teaching a vernacular only or mainly.										Total.	
	Arabic or Persian.		Sanskrit *tols*.		Any other oriental classic.		Teaching a vernacular only or mainly.				Elementary *maktabs*, *Koran* schools.				Other schools not conforming to departmental standard.			
							Boys.		Girls.		Boys.		Girls.		Boys.			
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
Cachar	3	76	1	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	385	..	..	....	....	34	483
Sylhet	9	287	45	579	..	..	3	112	..	..	122	2,684	1	18	....	....	180	3,680
Goálpára	..	..	1	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	16	..	..	....	....	2	31
Kámrúp	..	..	34	831	..	..	8	206	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	80	45	1,117
Darrang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	15	..	..	....	....	1	15
Nowgong	..	..	2	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	56	..	..	....	....	6	80
Sibságar	..	..	1	18	..	..	7	125	..	..	3	94	..	..	4	193	15	430
Lakhimpur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	34	2	53
Total	12	363	84	1,489	..	..	19	462	..	..	161	3,150	1	18	8	307	285	5,789

Comparing with the similar statement in paragraph 64 of last year's report, there was a gain of 28 schools and 1,068 pupils. The increase is thus accounted for: Under advanced Arabic and Persian schools there was a loss of one school, but a gain of 92 pupils; under advanced *tols* a gain of 2 schools and 70 pupils; under elementary boys' schools a loss of 5 schools and 48 pupils; under *maktabs* a gain of 29 schools and 812 pupils; and under other schools a gain of 3 schools and 142 pupils. The elementary schools, teaching a vernacular only or mainly, are really adventure schools, but as they did not keep regular registers, they could not be included in the unaided list. Under the head other schools not conforming to departmental standards are the 3 *ganak* schools in Kámrúp, where horoscope making is taught, and four schools in the Sibságar and one in the Lakhimpur district. Concerning these five schools, the Officiating Deputy Inspector of Upper Assam has not given any information, but two of those in Sibságar are presumably the same schools as were returned from Sibságar last year, where the instruction was confined to a smattering of English, Bengali, Assamese and Persian, and the other two probably the middle English schools which did not furnish returns.

65. Examinations for aiding *tols* and *maktabs* by rewards were held only in Sylhet and Kámrúp; in the other districts there were no applicants. The result of the examinations is embodied in the subjoined statement:

District.	Number of schools.		Number of candidates appearing.	Passed.	Rewards.	Number of pupils who obtained prizes.	Amount.
	Competing.	Successful.			Rs.		Rs.
Tols—							
Sylhet ...	14	9	43	13	370	4	34
Kámrúp ...	13	...*	25	13	177	3	23
Total... ...	27	...	68	26	547	7	57
Muktabs—							
Sylhet ...	2	2	11	8	111	2	19
Total... ...	2	2	11	8	111	2	19

* Returns not received.

SECTION IX.

PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF TEXT-BOOKS.

66. The Text-book Committee held two meetings during the year. Six books in manuscript were sent for examination, but only one of these, *viz.*, the Assamese Grammar, was recommended as a text book: this book when published will be included in the authorised list. The following is the classification of the manuscripts submitted for examination:

Assamese grammar	1
Poetic readers	2
Mathematics	1
Religion	1
Miscellaneous	1
Total	6

67. The following is the revised list of Assamese text books. Books out of print have been struck off the list, but will be replaced on new editions being published, and intimation to that effect sent to this office.

LITERATURE.

Name of book.	Author's name.	Where procurable.
1. Laráputhi	Gunabhi Rám Baruá ...	Nowgong.
2. Hitasádhiká	Podmábati Debi ...	Ditto.
3. Assamia Larámitra ...	Gunabhi Rám Baruá ...	Ditto.
4. Padyamálá	Padmaháns Gosvami ...	Ditto.
5. Kávyá Kusum	Gunabhi Rám Baruá ...	Ditto.
6. Sikshá Sár	Padmaháns Gosvami ...	Ditto.
7. Páthmála	Hem Chandra Baruá ...	Gauháti.
8. Hitakatha, Parts I and II ...	Purna Kánta Surma ...	Dibrugarh.
9. Uijupáth	Baladev Mahanta ...	Nowgong.
10. Jnánánkur	Chandra Sekhar Baruá ...	North Gauháti.
11. Nitikatha	Jajnesvar Sarmá ...	Sibságar.
12. Nitisár	Syad Taibulla ...	Gauháti.
13. Jnánánkur, Parts I and II ...	Nara Náth Mahanta ...	Nowgong.
14. Larabodh	Lambodar Bará ..	Tezpur.
15. Kabitámála, Parts I and II ...	Bholá Náth Dás ...	Sibságar.
16. Hitakatha	Jajnesvwar Sarmá ...	Ditto.
17. Hitopades	Tulsi Rám Bez Baruá ...	Nowgong.
18. Chintá Tarangini, Parts I and II.	Bholá Náth Dás ...	Sibságar.
19. Jnánánkur	Purna Kánta Sarma ...	Dibrugarh.
20. Nitikathá	Bishnu Priyá Devi ...	Nowgong.
21. Pratham and Dvitiya Sikshá.	Tulsi Rám Baruá ...	Ditto.
22. Larápáth, Part III ...	Jay Chandra Charkravarti ...	Gauháti.
23. Jnanamanjuri	Revánanda Pandit ...	Sibságar.
24. Sahitya Bichar ...	Satya Nath Bara ...	Gauháti.
25. Akhyanmala ...	Baladev Mahanta ...	Nowgong

BIOGRAPHY.

1. Biography of the late Ananda Rám Dhekial Phukan.	Gunábhi Rám Baruá ...	Ditto.
2. Sudharmar Upákhyan ...	Srimati Padmábati Devi Phukanani.	Ditto.

PRIMER.

1. Laradarsak	Munshi Yár Muhammad ...	Sibságar.
2. Larapáth, Parts I. and II. ...	Jay Chandra Chakravarti ...	Gauháti.
3. Lará Nijaputhi ...	Brajapathi Banerji ...	Ditto.
4. Barnabodh, Parts I and II ...	Madhu Rám Dás ...	Nowgong.
5. First, Second, and Third Books of Reading.	Káli Rám Baruá ...	Gauháti.
6. Barna Siksha, Parts, I, II and III.	Baladev Mahanta ...	Nowgong.
7. Sisupath, Parts I and II ...	Dharmesvar Gosvami ...	Ditto.

GRAMMAR.

1. Assamese Grammar ...	Hem Chandra Baruá ...	Gauháti.
2. Assamia ditto ...	Dina Bandhu Tarkálankár ...	Tezpur.
3. „ Larár Vyakaran ...	Hem Chandra Baruá ...	Gauháti.
4. Assamese Grammar ...	Dharmesvar Gosvámi ...	Nowgong.
5. Asubodh Vyakaran ...	Náráyan Sármá Vidyabhusan	Gauháti.

ARITHMETIC.

1. Mental Arithmetic, Parts I and II.	Mahim Chandra Chakravarti ...	Dhubri.
2. Ganit Sástra ...	Purnánanda Sen ...	Nowgong.
3. Byabaharik Maukhik Ganana	Rajani Kanta Chakravarti ...	Barpeta.
4. Karyya Sikshá ...	Káli Rám Baruá ...	Gauháti.
5. Ganan Pustak ...	Sakhawat Ali	Ditto.
6. Ankapáth	Dibakar Sarma	Sibságar.
7. Ankabodh	Jajnesvar Sarma	Ditto.
8. Maukhik Anka ...	Jay Chandra Chakravati ...	Gauháti.
9. Assamese Arithmetic ...	Narayan Sarma ...	Ditto.
10. Mental Arithmetic ...	Kali Nath Hazarika ...	Tezpur.
11. Gonid Badh	Mahim Chandra Chakravarti ...	Dhubri.

Name of book.	Author's name.	Where procurable.
HISTORY.		
1. Assam Buranji	Gunabhi Rám Baruá ...	Nowgong.
2. History of India, Parts I and II.	Dharmesvar Gosvami ...	Ditto.
GEOGRAPHY.		
1. Geography for Assamese children.	Gunabhi Rám Baruá ...	Nowgong.
2. Physical Geography ...	Lambodar Datta	Sibságar.
3. Ditto ditto ...	Isánanda Bharáli ...	Ditto.
4. Geography of Assam ...	Munshi Hásmat Ullá ...	Goálpára.
GEOMETRY.		
1. Geometry	Sakhawat Ali	Gauháti.
2. Ditto	Jájnesvar Sarmá	Sibságar.
MENSURATION AND SURVEYING.		
1. Parimiti	Hali Rám Dás Medhi ...	Gauháti.
2. Mensuration and surveying ...	Bholá Náth Dás	Sibságar.
3. Bhumiparimán, or Treatise on Simple Mensuration in Assamese.	Káli Ram Baruá	Gauháti.
4. Bhumipariman	Brajapati Banerji	Gauháti.
5. Saral Bhumipariman ...	Prabhat Chandra Sarasvati ...	Ditto.
SCIENCE.		
1. Padárthavidya ...	Munshi Sakhawat Ali ...	Gauháti.
2. Translation of Dr. Cuningham's Sanitary Primer and of "Way to Health."	.....	Office of Director of Public Instruction, Assam, Shillong.
3. Bastu Sikshá	Lakshmi Rám Bara ..	Gauháti.
4. Catechism of Dr. Cuningham's Sanitary Primer.	Bápu Rám Sarma ...	Ditto.
5. Svasthyabidhi	Nara Náth Mahanta ...	Nowgong.
6. Ratna Mani	Rud Rám Bardalai ...	.....

J. WILLSON,

Director of Public Instruction, Assam.

Prescribed Statements.

Education General Table I.

Abstract Return of Schools and Scholars in the Province of Assam at the end of the official year 1890-91.

(For details, *see* General Table III.)

Area and population.			—		Public institutions.					Private institutions.		Grand total.	Percentage of
					School Education, General.		School Education, Special.		Total of public institutions.	Advanced.	Elementary.		
Total area in square miles.	Number of towns* and villages.	Population.			Secondary schools.	Primary schools.	Training schools.	All other special schools.					
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Square miles.. 46,341	Towns ... 15	Males ... 2,793,099	Institutions	For males ...	108‡	2,094	14	6	2,222	96	188	2,506	Institutions to number of towns and villages. 14·31
				For females.	2	128	2	1	133	.....	1	134	·77
	Villages 17,500	Females.. 2,631,141	Total		110‡	2,222	16	7	2,355	96	189	2,640	15·07
	Total ... 17,515	Total ... 5,424,240	Scholars ...	Males ...	10,216‡	57,607	290	202	68,315	1,852	3,919	74,086	Male scholars to male population of school-going age. † 17·68
				Females ...	93	4,538	41	8	4,680	.....	18	4,698	Female scholars to female population of school-going age. † 1·19
			Total		10,309‡	62,145	331	210	72,995	1,852	3,937	78,784	9·68

* A town contains 5,000 inhabitants or upwards. A village contains less than 5,000 inhabitants. A municipality, whatever its population, should be entered as a town.
† The population of school going age is taken at 15 per cent. of the whole population.
‡ Exclusive of the Manipur school with 100 pupils.

EDUCATION GENERAL TABLE II.

Abstract Return of Expenditure on Public Instruction in the Province of Assam for the official year 1890-91.

(For details, *see* General Table IV.)

	Total direct expenditure on public instruction.§					Total indirect expenditure on public instruction.§								Total expenditure on public instruction.
	School Education, General.		School Education, Special.		Total.	University.	Direction.	Inspection.	Scholarships.	Buildings.	Special grants for furniture and apparatus.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	
	Secondary schools.	Primary schools	Training schools.	All other special schools.										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Institutions ... For males	‖1,60,407	1,65,181	20,881	4,397	3,50,866	1,706	20,233	37,695	38,950	18,631	1,773	10,915	1,29,903	4,99,553
For females	841	9,138	1,698	7,107	18,784									
Total	‖1,61,248	1,74,319	22,579	11,504	3,69,650	1,706	20,233	37,695	38,950	18,631	1,773	10,915	1,29,903	4,99,553
2. (*a*) Percentages° of Provincial Expenditure included in columns 2-15 to total Provincial Expenditure on public instruction.	23·03	6 22	8·18	1·04	38·47	.....	11·56	22·74	16·78	5·23	·50	4·72	61·53	100
(*b*) Percentages° of Local Fund Expenditure included in columns 2-15 to total Local Fund Expenditure on public instruction.	15·23	70 26	3·18	.....	88·67	.....	.....	·10	6·51	2·66	·22	1·84	11·33	100
(*c*) Percentages° of Municipal Expenditure included in columns 2-15 to total Municipal Expenditure on public instruction.	26·75	55·04	.....	9·89	91·68	.....	.....	.....	.....	6·03	1·51	·78	8·32	100
(*d*) Percentages of total expenditure in columns 2-15 to total expenditure on public instruction.	32·28	34·89	4·52	2 30	73·99	·34	4·05	7·55	7·80	3·73	·35	2·19	26·01	100
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.									
3. Average annual cost† of educating each pupil in— Government institutions. Cost to Provincial Revenues	10 15 8	5 2 11	77 6 10	.....	12 13 9									
Cost to Local and Municipal Funds	0 1 6	.....	12 5 11	.....	0 8 8									
Total cost	22 11 8	5 2 11	95 4 10	232 6 0	24 1 2									
Local Fund Schools‡ .. Cost to Provincial Revenues	.....	.....	0 15 6	.....	0 0 1									
Cost to Local Funds	.....	2 8 1	32 13 9	.....	2 9 7									
Total cost	.....	2 14 4	33 13 2	.....	2 15 11									
Municipal Schools‡ ... Cost to Provincial Revenues	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....									
Cost to Municipal Funds	.....	2 10 8	.....	13 3 2	3 1 7									
Total cost	.....	3 5 8	.....	13 3 2	3 12 2									

° The percentages required for 2(*a*), 2(*b*), 2(*c*) are to be calculated from the figures given in columns 27, 28, 29, respectively, of General Table IV.

† The annual cost is calculated on the *direct* expenditure only. The average cost of educating each pupil is obtained by dividing the direct expenditure by the average number on the rolls monthly during the year.

‡ The average cost of each pupil in Local Fund and Municipal Schools is to be obtained from the figures given in General Table VII.

§ Fractions of a rupee should be omitted, except in the columns showing the average annual cost of educating each pupil.

‖ Exclusive of Rs. 922 on the Manipur middle English school.

Aided institutions...	Cost to Provincial Revenues	.....			0	5	5	15	5	8	46	7	9	0	6	6
	Cost to Local and Municipal Funds	5	5	3	1	6	6	.....			1	7	9	2	0	2
Total cost		13	8	7	3	6	5	40	3	5	193	9	1	5	6	1
Unaided institutions—Total cost		12	5	3	0	11	5	20	12	8	14	15	6	5	1	1
All institutions ...	Cost to Provincial Revenues	3	14	8	0	2	10	35	6	10	8	0	0	0	14	11
	Cost to Local and Municipal Funds	2	8	5	1	14	4	12	11	0	2	6	6	2	0	9
Total cost		16	9	7	3	0	2	59	4	2	53	8	1	5	6	7

EDUCATION GENERAL TABLE III.

Return of Schools and Scholars in the Province of Assam for the official year 1890-91.

Class of Institutions.	Public Institutions. Under public management. Managed by Government. Number of Institutions	Number of scholars on the rolls on 31st March.	Average number on the rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance.	Managed by Local Fund and Municipal Boards. Number of Institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on 31st March.	Average number on the rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance.	Under private management. Aided by Government or by Local Fund or Municipal Boards. Number of Institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on 31st March.	Average number on the rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance.	Unaided. Number of Institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on 31st March.	Average number on the rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance.	Grand total of public institutions.	Grand total of scholars on the 31st of March.	Number of scholars on the 31st of March learning English.	A classical language.	A vernacular language.	Classification of scholars on the 31st of March according to race or creed. Europeans and Eurasians.	Native Christians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Others.	Number of girls in boys' schools.	Number of boys in girls' schools.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.																												
For boys.																												
School Education, General. High Schools	11	2,114	2,130	1,708	..	..	..	..	4	507	475	378	3	704	643	450	18	3,325	3,321	1,964	1,724	7	35	2,770	418	95	..	..
Middle „ English	2	163	151	116	..	..	..	..	31*	2,763*	2,492*	1,929*	11	1,009	929	658	44*	3,935*	2,215	258	3,772	..	262	2,717	684	272	36	..
Middle „ Vernacular	14	1,193	1,183	924	..	..	..	..	29	1,661	1,504	1,182	3	138	153	109	46	2,993	..	25	2,992	..	17	2,430	491	54	..	..
For girls.																												
„ „ Vernacular	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	57	53	36	..	..	..	..	2	57	..	..	57	..	..	49	8	..	..	..
Total	27	3,470	3,464	2,748	..	..	..	..	66*	4,988*	4,524*	3,525*	17	1,851	1,725	1,217	110*	10,309*	5,536	2,247	8,545	7	314	7,966	1,601	421	36	..
Primary Schools.																												
For boys	29	436	397	297	1,124	30,699	28,646	20,445	824	25,435	23,935	17,887	117	3,549	3,059	2,498	2,094	60,119	109	1,188	60,087	..	1,696	41,952	10,204	6,267	2,763	..
„ girls	1	8	7	6	99	1,434	1,306	968	17	392	381	272	11	192	194	164	128	2,026	54	19	2,026	..	204	1,359	296	167	..	251
Total	30	444	404	303	1,223	32,133	29,952	21,413	841	25,827	24,316	18,109	128	3,741	3,253	2,662	2,222	62,145	163	1,207	62,113	..	1,900	43,311	10,500	6,434	2,763	251
SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL INSTRUCTION.																												
School Education, Special. Training Schools for Masters	6	120	149	123	6	62	91	57	1	98	88	74	1	7	9	5	14	287	61	55	268	..	111	105	2	69	..	..
„ „ Mistresses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	33	34	33	1	11	10	9	2	44	..	..	44	..	32	....	....	12	..	3
Law Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	2	19	19	17	2	19	19	..	....	..	..	17	2	..	..	..
Industrial Schools	1	8	8	7	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	1	8	..	..	....	..	..	7	1	..	..	..
Other Schools	..	..	..	..	2	37	35	28	1	17	37	32	1	129	116	90	4	183	17	167	129	17	..	37	129	..	..	9
Total	7	128	157	130	8	99	126	85	3	148	159	139	5	166	154	121	23	541	97	222	441	17	143	166	134	81	..	12
Total of Schools of Public Instruction	64	4,042	4,025	3,181	1,231	32,232	30,078	21,498	910*	30,963*	28,999*	21,773*	150	5,758	5,122	4,000	2,355*	72,995*	5,796	3,676	71,099	24	2,357	51,443	12,235	6,926	2,799	263
Private Institutions																												
1. Advanced Teaching—																												
(a) Arabic or Persian																	12	363	..	363	....	..	..	....	363	..	..	..
(b) Sanskrit																	84	1,489	..	1,489	....	..	..	1,484	....	5	.	..
2. Elementary, teaching a Vernacular only or mainly															For boys		19	462	..	..	462	..	..	391	65	6	..	..
3. Elementary, teaching the Koran															„ boys		161	3,150	..	3,150	....	..	..	....	3,150	..	.	..
															„ girls		1	18	..	18	....	..	..	....	18	..	..	..
4. Other schools not conforming to departmental standards															„ boys		8	307	143	..	307	..	..	294	13	..	..	..
Total																	285	5,789	143	5,020	769	..	..	2,169	3,609	11	..	..
Grand total																	2,640*	78,784*	5,939	8,696	71,868	24	2,357	53,612	15,844	6,947	2,799	263

* Exclusive of the Manipur school with 100 pupils with average roll number 101, daily average 59. These 100 pupils are unclassed in columns 20 to 27.

EDUCATION GENERAL TABLE IV.

Return of Expenditure on Public Instruction in the Province of Assam for the official year 1890-91.

Objects of expenditure.	Public Institutions. Under public management. Managed by Government. Provincial revenues.	Local Funds.	Municipal Funds.	Fees.	Subscriptions.	Endowments and other sources.	Total.	Managed by Local Fund and Municipal Boards. Provincial revenues.	Local Funds.	Municipal Funds.	Fees.	Subscriptions.	Endowments and other sources.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.														
School Education, General. For boys. High Schools	28,897	..	.	33,234	..	1,310	63,441	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Middle " English	1,141	..	325	834	..	1	2,301	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Middle " Vernacular ..	7,986	..	..	5,006	..	..	12,992	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
For girls— Middle Schools .. Vernacular ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	38,024	.	325	39,074	..	1,311	78,734	..	..	..	..	..		..
Primary Schools.														
For boys	2,033	..	..	..	..	..	2,033	..	68,862	1,723	9,252	1,834	117	81,788
" girls	60	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	4,143	804	100	330	..	5,377
Total	2,093	..	..	..	..	..	2,093	..	73,005	2,537	9,352	2,164	117	87,175
SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL INSTRUCTION.														
School Education, special. Training Schools for Masters	11,537	1,843	..	118	..	702	14,200	88	2,990	..	..	..	..	3,078
" for Mistresses ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Law Schools	..	..	..	..	..	.	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Industrial Schools	..	..	..	..	..	1,859	1,859	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Schools ..	..	.	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	462	..	..	..	462
Total	11,537	1,843	..	118	..	2,561	16,059	88	2,990	462	..	..	..	3,540
Buildings	8,639	..	..	..	..	..	8,639	..	..	315	..	..	111	426
Furniture and apparatus (special grants only) ..	820	..	..	..	..	..	820	.	20	79	..	..	15	114
Total	9,459	..	..	..	..	..	9,459	..	20	394	..	..	126	540
University	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Direction	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scholarships held in Arts Colleges	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Professional Colleges ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Secondary Schools ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Primary Schools ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	.
Total..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Expenditure on Public Instruction ..	61,113	1,843	325	39,192	..	3,872	1,06,345	88	76,015	3,393	9,352	2,164	243	91,255

Objects of expenditure.	Under private management. Aided by Government or by Local Fund or Municipal Boards. Provincial revenues.	Local Funds.	Municipal Funds.	Fees.	Subscriptions.	Endowments and other sources.	Total.	Unaided. Fees.	Subscriptions.	Endowments and other sources.	Total	Total expenditure from Provincial revenues	Local Funds.	Municipal Funds.	Fees.	All other sources.	Grand Total.
1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.																	
School Education, General. For boys. High Schools	..	3,867	20	6,515	641	1,626	12,819	5,993	.	1,969	7,962	28,897*	3,867	200	45,742	5,546*	84,252*
Middle " English	..	12,876	88	11,730	7,155*	219	32398*	3,719	1,994	6,439†	12,152	1,141	12,976	538	16,333	15,863	46,851
Middle " Vernacular ..	..	6,044	360	4,037	4,732	19	15,162	302	848	..	1,150	7,986	6,044	360	9,315	5,599	29,304
For girls— Middle Schools .. Vernacular ..	..	365	300	..	176	.	841	..	..	..	....	.....	365	300	....	176	841
Total	..	23,152	948	22,302	12984*	1,864	61,250*	10,014	2,842	8,408	21,264	38,024*	23,152	1,398	71,390	27,284*	1,61,248*
Primary Schools.																	
For boys	7,429	33,371	120	14,778	5,360	18,385	79,443	1,544	363	.	1,907	9,462	1,02,232	1,853	25,574	26,059	1,65,181
" girls	748	445	220	117	538	1,212	3,281	..	190	230	420	808	4,588	1,024	217	2,501	9,138
Total	8,177	33,816	340	14,895	5,898	19,598	82,724	1,541	553	230	2,327	10,270	1,06,821	2,877	25,791	28,560	1,74,319
SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL INSTRUCTION.																	
School Education, special. Training Schools for Masters	1,773	..	..	..	..	1,830	3,603	..	..	..	...	13,398	4,833	..	118	2,532	20,881
" for Mistresses ..	100	.	..	..	..	1,203	1,303	.	..	395	395	100	....	..	....	1,598	1,698
Law Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,580	..	..	1,580	.....	....	..	1,580	....	1,580
Industrial Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	.	....	.....	....	..	....	1,859	1,859
Other Schools ..	1,720	..	55	5,087	..	300	7,162	38	36	372	441	1,720	....	517	5,120	708	8,065
Total	3,593	..	55	5,087	..	3,333	12,068	1,618	36	767	2,416	15,218	4,833	517	6,818	6,697	34,053
Buildings	..	4,010	.	..	719	3,922	8,691	..	..	875	875	8,639	4,040	318	....	5,637	18,631
Furniture and apparatus (special grants only) ..	..	321	..	..	8	195	524	..	.	315	315	820	341	79	....	533	1,773
Total	..	4,361	..	..	727	4,127	9,215	..	.	1,190	1,190	9,459	4,381	394	....	6,170	20,404
University	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	..	1,706	....	1,706
Direction	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	19,093	...	..	1,140	....	20,233
Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	37,545	150	..	....	....	37,695
Scholarships held in Arts Colleges	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	15,150	....	..	....	....	15,150
Professional Colleges ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	2,675	....	..	....	832	3,507
Secondary Schools ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	9,873	7,859	..	....	524	18,256
Primary Schools ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	2,037	..	....	....	2,037
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	7,789	2,807	41	..	278	10,915
Total..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	92,125	12,853	41	2,846	1,634	1,09,499
Total Expenditure on Public Instruction ..	11,770	61,329	1,343	42,284	19609*	28,922	165253	13,171	3,431	10,595	27,197	1,65,096*	1,52,040	5,227	1,06,845	70,345*	4,99,553*

* Exclusive of the expenditure on the Manipur school (Rs. 369 from Provincial, Rs. 553 from subscription, making a total of Rs. 922).
† Municipal contribution Rs. 125.

EDUCATION GENERAL TABLE V.

Return of the Stages of Instruction of Pupils in Public Schools for General Education in the Province of Assam at the end of the official year 1890-91.

Class of schools.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils on the rolls on 31st March.	High stage. Comprising all pupils who have passed beyond the lower secondary (middle) stage, but have not passed the Matriculation Examination. 1			Middle stage. Comprising all pupils who have passed beyond the upper primary stage, but have not passed beyond the lower secondary (middle) stage. 2			Upper primary stage. Comprising all pupils who have passed beyond the lower primary stage, but have not passed beyond the upper primary stage. 3			Lower primary stage. Comprising all pupils who have not passed beyond the lower primary stage. Reading printed books. 4			Lower primary stage. Comprising all pupils who have not passed beyond the lower primary stage. Not reading printed books. 5			Total.		
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.																				
For boys .. Government .. English	13	2,277	573	....	573	607	....	607	381	....	381	716	....	716	....	....	....	2,277	....	2,277
For boys .. Government .. Vernacular	14	1,193	3	....	3	234	....	234	278	....	278	570	....	570	108	....	108	1,193	....	1,193
For boys .. Aided .. English	35	3,270	168	....	168	627	2	629	735	....	735	1,679	1	1,680	58	....	58	3,267	3	3,270
For boys .. Aided .. Vernacular	29	1,661	1	....	1	363	....	363	392	....	392	845	....	845	60	....	60	1,661	....	1,661
For boys .. Unaided .. English	14	1,713	255	....	255	336	....	336	461	6	467	592	27	619	36	....	36	1,680	33	1,713
For boys .. Unaided .. Vernacular	3	138	1	....	1	20	....	20	27	....	27	52	....	52	38	....	38	138	....	138
Total ..	108	10,252	1,001	....	1,001	2,187	2	2,189	2,274	6	2,280	4,454	28	4,482	300	....	300	10,216	36	10,252
For girls .. Aided .. Vernacular	2	57	....	....	....	....	2	2	....	5	5	....	48	48	....	2	2	....	57	57
Total ..	2	57	....	....	....	....	2	2	....	5	5	....	48	48	....	2	2	....	57	57
Total Secondary Schools ..	110	10,309	1,001	....	1,001	2,187	4	2,191	2,274	11	2,285	4,454	76	4,530	300	2	302	10,216	93	10,309
PRIMARY SCHOOLS.																				
For boys .. Government	29	436	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	305	13	318	111	7	118	416	20	436
For boys .. Local Fund	1,107	29,904	....	....	....	7	....	7	222	....	222	22,862	649	23,511	5,992	172	6,164	29,083	821	29,904
For boys .. Municipal	17	795	....	....	....	....	....	....	8	....	8	678	30	708	79	....	79	765	30	795
For boys .. Aided	824	25,435	....	....	....	8	....	8	751	5	756	19,762	1,519	21,281	3,150	240	3,390	23,671	1,764	25,435
For boys .. Unaided	117	3,549	....	....	....	....	....	....	20	....	20	2,716	118	2,834	685	10	695	3,421	128	3,549
Total ..	2,094	60,119	....	....	....	15	....	15	1,001	5	1,006	46,323	2,329	48,652	10,017	429	10,446	57,356	2,763	60,119
For girls .. Government	1	8	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	2	6	2	....	2	6	2	8
For girls .. Local Fund	93	1,275	....	....	....	....	1	1	....	8	8	125	923	1,048	22	196	218	147	1,128	1,275
For girls .. Municipal	6	159	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	2	33	102	135	16	6	22	49	110	159
For girls .. Aided	17	392	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	23	23	11	353	364	....	5	5	11	381	392
For girls .. Unaided	11	192	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.	20	99	119	18	55	73	38	154	192
Total	128	2,026	....	....	....	....	1	1	....	33	33	193	1,479	1,672	58	262	320	251	1,775	2,026
Total Primary Schools ..	2,222	62,145	....	....	....	15	1	16	1,001	38	1,039	46,516	3,808	50,324	10,075	691	10,766	57,607	4,538	62,145
Grand total ..	2,332	72,454	1,001	...	1,001	2,202	5	2,207	3,275	49	3,324	50,970	3,884	54,854	10,375	693	11,068	67,823	4,631	72,454

Note.—The number of girls shown in this table corresponds with the number returned under Primary and Secondary Schools in General Forms I and III.
Mixed schools are entered as boys' schools or girls' schools, according as the number of boys or of girls is greater.
Exclusive of the Manipur school with 100 boys enclassed.

Education General Table VI.

Return showing the Results of prescribed Examinations in the Province of Assam during the official year 1890-91.

Nature of examination.		Number of institutions sending examinees.				Number of examinees.					Number passed					Race or creed of passed scholars.					Remarks.
		Institutions under public management.	Aided institutions.	Other institutions	Total	Institutions under public management.	Aided institutions.	Other institutions	Private students	Total	Institutions under public management.	Aided institutions.	Other institutions.	Private students	Total	Europeans and Eurasians	Native Christians	Hindus	Muhammadans.	Others	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Schools for General Education—																					
Matriculation	Boys	11	4	3	18	95	34	34	4	167	49	14	5	2	70	.....	3	58	8	1	
Middle School Examination ..	Boys	14	54	4	72	79	304	15	54	452	50	200	13	11	274	.....	..	231	38	2	
	Girls	....	1	..	1	....	1	..	..	1	....	1	..	.	1	.....	..	1	..	..	
Upper Primary ditto ..	Boys	3	73	1	77	24	218	10	.	252	9	119	6	.	134	.....	..	116	15	3	
	Girls	....	2	..	2	....	4	..		4	....	3	..	..	3	.....	..	2	1	..	
Lower ditto ditto ..	Boys	586	201	2	789	1,608	612	8	..	2,228	680	338	4	..	1,022	.....	1	854	99	68	
	Girls	4	5	..	9	16	9	..		25	12	8	..	.	20	....	2	14	..	4	
Schools for Special Instruction—																					
1] Training School Examination for Masters ..	Upper	2	.	..	2	43	..		7	50	28	..	..	4	32	.....	..	20	4	8	
	Lower	10	1	1	12	91	3	4	6	104	34	2	3	1	40	.....	..	22	1	17	

EDUCATION GENERAL TABLE VII.

Ret showing the Distribution of Local Fund and Municipal Expenditure on Public Instruction in the Province of Assam for the official year 1890-91.

Objects of Expenditure.	Expenditure of Local Fund Boards on public instruction. In institutions managed by Local Fund Boards. Number of institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on the 31st of March.	Average number on the rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance.	Provincial grants.	Local rates or cesses.	Municipal grants.	Fees.	Subscriptions.	Endowments and other sources.	Total.	In institutions managed by The Department.	Municipal Boards.	Private persons or Associations.	Total Local Fund expenditure on Public Instruction.	Expenditure of Municipal Boards on public instruction. In institutions managed by Municipal Boards. Number of institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on the 31st of March.	Average number on the rolls monthly during the year.	Average daily attendance.	Provincial grants.	Municipal rates.	Local Fund grants.	Fees.	Subscriptions.	Endowments and other sources.	Total.	In institutions managed by The Department.	Local Fund Boards.	Private persons or Associations.	Total Municipal expenditure on public instruction.	Total expenditure of Local Fund and Municipal Boards on public instruction.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.																															
School Education, General. — For boys, High Schools	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	3,867	3,867	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200	200	4,067
" " Middle Schools.. English	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	12,876	12,876	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	325	..	213	538	12,414
" " Middle Schools.. Vernacular	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	6,044	6,044	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	360	360	6,404
" girls, " " .. Vernacular	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	365	365	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	300	665
Total	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	23,152	23,152	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	325	..	1,073	1,398	24,550
PRIMARY SCHOOLS.																															
For boys	1,107	29,904	27,964	19,944	..	68,793	239	8,759	1,834	117	79,742	....	69	33,371	1,02,233	17	795	682	501	..	1,494	69	493	..	....	2,05	..	239	120	1,858	1,04,086
" girls	93	1,275	1,171	891	..	4,143	120	100	330	..	4,693	....	..	445	4,588	6	159	135	77	..	684	..	..	..	....	C8	..	120	220	1,024	5,612
Total	1,200	31,179	29,135	20,835	..	72,936	359	8,859	2,164	117	84,435	....	69	33,816	1,06,821	23	954	817	578	..	2,178	69	493	..	....	2,740	..	359	340	2,877	1,09,698
SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL INSTRUCTION.																															
School Education, Special. — Training Schools for Masters	6	62	91	57	88	2,990	..	....	....	..	3,078	1,843	..	....	4,833	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	....	4,833
School Education, Special. — Other Schools	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	2	37	35	28	..	462	..	..	..	....	462	..	..	55	517	517
Total	6	62	91	57	88	2,990	..	....	....	..	3,078	1,843	..	....	4,833	2	37	35	28	..	462	..	..	..	...	462	..	..	55	517	5,350
Buildings	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	59	59	....	..	4,040	4,040	..	..	..	..	..	315	..	..	..	52	367	..	..	....	315	4,355
Furniture and Apparatus (special grants only)	..	....	....	....	..	20	..	....	....	15	35	....	..	321	341	..	..	..	..	..	79	..	..	..	....	79	..	..	....	79	420
Total	..	....	....	....	..	20	..	....	....	74	94	....	..	4,361	4,381	..	..	..	..	..	394	..	..	..	52	446	..	..	....	394	4,775
Inspection	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	....	150
Scholarships held in — Secondary Schools	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	7,859	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	....	7,859
Scholarships held in — Primary "	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	2,037	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	....	2,037
Miscellaneous	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	2,807	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	41	2,848
Total	..	....	....	....	..	....	..	....	....	..	....	....	..	....	12,853	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	41	12,894
Grand total	1,206	31,241	29,226	20,892	88	75,946	359	8,859	2,164	191	87,607	1,843	69	61,329	1,52,040	25	991	852	606	..	3,634	62	493	..	52	3,648	325	359	1,468	5,227	1,57,267

I.—The sum of the expenditure in columns 12 and 27 should agree with the expenditure shown in column 15 of General Table IV.
II.—The sum of the expenditure in columns 16 and 31 should agree with the expenditure shown in columns 28 and 29, respectively, of General Table IV.
III.—The expenditure under Inspection, Scholarship, and Miscellaneous should be shown only in columns 15, 31 and 32, and not in the other columns.

Provincial Statements.

APPENDIX A.

Results of Entrance Examination for last five years.

Name of School.	1887.		1888.		1889.		1890.		1891.	
	Number of candidates who appeared.	Number passed.	Number of candidates who appeared.	Number passed.	Number of candidates who appeared.	Number passed.	Number of candidates who appeared.	Number passed.	Number of candidates who appeared.	Number passed.
GOVERNMENT.										
Silchar (Cachar)	7	4	5	5	6	5	9	6	15	7
Sylhet	30	26	29	24	29	17	30	24	23	13
Dhubri (Goálpára)	5	5	13	10	9	5	17	5	11	8
Gauháti (Kámrúp)	12	9	14	9	14	4	11	10	10	4
Tezpur (Darrang)	6	5	6	5	6	1	4	4	5	3
Nowgong	2	2	4	4	7	3	6	4	7	3
Sibságar	11	2	9	1	11	1	7	6	3	2
Jorhát (Sibságar)	7	5	3	2	8	1	9	9	11	3
Dibrugarh (Lakhimpur)	6	3	4	1	8	7	4	4	8	5
Kohima (Nága Hills)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Shillong (Khási Hills)	...	...	4	1	6	...	6	4	2	1
Total	86	61	91	62	104	44	104	77	95	49
AIDED.										
Parpeta (Kámrúp)	5	4	6	2	7	2	2	2	1	1
Habiganj (Sylhet)	8	4	19	8	13	5	12	8	18	6
Sunámganj „	...	...	7	3	6	1	8	5	9	3
Shillong Mission (Khási Hills)	6	5	5	1	16	..	8	3	5	4
Total	19	13	37	14	42	8	30	18	33	14
UNAIDED.										
National Institution (Sylhet)	14	9	21	5	10	2	9	6	11	4
Murari Chand „	13	8	19	6	14	7	13	6	17	1
Habiganj Institution	5	3	No school.							
Bezbarua High School (Sibságar) ...	No school.								6	...
Total	32	20	40	11	24	9	22	12	34	5
Grand total	137	94	168	87	170	61	156	107	162	68

APPENDIX B.

Candidates who have obtained Junior Scholarships from Assam 1891.

No.	Name of scholar.	Age.	School from which the scholarship is obtained.	College where scholarship is made tenable.
	Scholarship, Rs. 25 per mensem.			
1	Prasanna Chandra Bhattacharyya.	16	Dhubri Government ...	Dacca College.
2	Dharmanath Datta ...	18-4	Sylhet „ ...	St. Xavier's College.
	Brahmaputra Valley Scholarship, Rs. 20 per mensem.			
1	Sheikh Derajuddin Ahmed ...	18	Sibságar Government ...	Ripon College.
2	Thanuram Das ...	18	Dibrugarh „ ...	Metropolitan Institution.
3	Radhanath Phukan ...	14	Sibságar „ ...	Ditto ditto.
4	Kanak Chandra Gagai ...	17	Dibrugarh „ ...	Presidency College.
5	Kripal Chandra Barua ...	15-9	Jorhát „ ...	Metropolitan Institution.
6	Hari Krishna Das ...	14	Gauháti „ ...	Ditto ditto.
7	Bhumsing Das ...	18	Nowgong „ ...	Sibpur Engineering College.
8	Ananda Chandra Agarwala...	16-5	Tezpur „ ...	St. Xavier's College.
9	Sheikh Tamizur Rahman ...	14	Gauháti „ ...	Presidency College.
10	Phukan Ali ...	15	Jorhát „ ...	Ditto ditto.
11	Rajani Nath Sarma Barua ...	17-7	Tezpur „ ...	General Assembly's Institution.
12	Mujibuddin Ahmed ...	17-3	Nowgong „ ...	Presidency College.
13	Radha Kanta Barkakati .	18-4	Tezpur „ ...	Metropolitan Institution.
14	Chandradhar Barua ...	16-3	Nowgong „ ...	Presidency College.

APPENDIX B.—*Continued.*

No.	Name of scholar.	Age.	School from which the scholarship is obtained.	College where scholarship is made tenable.
	Hill District Scholarship, Rs. 20 per mensem.			
1	U Harrison Roy ...	17	Shillong aided Mission.	Free Church Institution, Calcutta.
2	U Rai Bhajur ...	19	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
	Surma Valley Scholarship, Rs. 15 per mensem.			
1	Bama Charan Bhattacharyya	16-2	Sylhet Government ...	Dacca College.
2	Muhammad Ahid ...	18-5	Ditto ...	Ditto.
3	Suryyamani De ...	16	Sunámganj aided ...	Jagannath College.
4	Dinanath Dhar ...	20-2	Sylhet Government ...	Dacca College.
5	Sarat Chandra Datta ...	18	Ditto ...	Ditto.
6	Krishna Chandra Das ...	16	Habiganj aided ...	Ditto.
7	Gopi Mohan Aditya ...	17-5	Silchar Government ...	Ditto.
	Scholarships given to Muhammadans, Rs. 15 per mensem.			
1	Abdus Sobur ...	17-7	Sylhet National Institution (unaided)	Presidency College.
2	Masmon Ali ...	19	Silchar Government ...	Dacca College.
	Scholarships awarded to others than Natives of the Brahmaputra Valley or Hill Districts reading in schools in those parts of the Province, Rs. 20 per mensem.			
1	Haripada Pramanik ...	17-5	Dibrugarh Government.	General Assembly's Institution.
	Rs. 15 per mensem.			
2	Lalit Mohan Chattopadhaya...	13-8	Shillong aided Mission...	Metropolitan Institution.
3	Krishnagati Sarma ...	16	Dhubri Government ...	Dacca College.
4	Tarini Charan Datta ...	16-10	Ditto ...	City „
5	Radha Krishna Gosvami ...	12-9	Ditto ...	Presidency College.
	Rs. 10 per mensem.			
6	Sarat Chandra Bhaduri ...	16	Shillong Government ...	Krishnagar College.
7	Joges Chandra Roy ...	16-5	Dhubri „ ...	Dacca College.

APPENDIX C.

Boarding-houses attached to Government High Schools.

School.	Number of boarders the institution can accommodate.	Number of boarders on 31st March.	Sanctioned yearly expenditure for establishments and head money.	Expenditure on: Establishments.	Construction and repairs.	Total.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Silchar ...	16	7	192	180	.....	180
Sylhet ...	.....	16	174	174	.....	174
Dhubri ...	16	16	168	168	521	689
Gauháti ...	30	21	228	228	551	779
Tezpur ...	24	14	144	144	175	319
Nowgong ...	40	28	266	195	150	345
Jorhát ...	14	11	144	142	190	332
Sibságar ...	.....	.....	84	5	.....	5
Dibrugarh ...	24	13	240	240	259	499
Total ...	164	126	1,640	1,476	1,846	3,322
Corresponding total for preceding year.	164	155	1,610	1,395	780	2,175

APPENDIX D.

Return showing the present position of pupils who left High Schools from the first class.

Name of school.	Number that left during 1890 91.	Number that received appointments.	Number of apprentices.	Number of unemployed of those of whom nothing is known.	Number died.
GOVERNMENT—					
Silchar	7	3	2	2	.....
Sylhet	9	.....	3	5	1
Dhubri	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Gauháti	4	1	3*	.....	.....
Tezpur	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Nowgong	9	6	.....	3*	.....
Jorhát	5	1	.....	4	.....
Sibságar	5	1	1	3	.....
Dibrugarh	3	1	.....	2	.....
Shillong	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Kohima	No first class.				
AIDED—					
Habiganj	9	3	2	4	.....
Sunámganj	7	4	1	2	.....
Barpeta	1	.....	.....	1	.....
Shillong Mission	4	.....	.....	4	.....
UNAIDED—					
National Institution	4	.....	.....	4	.....
Murarichand	18	1	3	13	1
Sibságar (Bezbarua)...	7	.....	2	5	.....
Total	95	21	17	55	2

* Traders.

APPENDIX E.

Return showing the number of Assam Students reading in Bengal Colleges and the number that passed the University Examination.

Name of school from which the pupil matriculated.	Number of pupils in University.		Number who passed F.A. in 1891.	Number of pupils in University.		Number who passed B.A. in 1891.
	First year.	Second year.		Third year.	Fourth year.	
DEPARTMENTAL—						
Silchar	4	1	1	4	.....	.....
Sylhet	18	23	15	11	6	1
Dhubri	5	4	2	3	2	.....
Gauháti	5	6	4	2	.....	.....
Tezpur	1	1	.....	.....	2	.....
Nowgong	2	4	.....	1	.....	.....
Jorhát	7	1	.....	1	1	.....
Sibságar	3	2	1	.....	.....	.....
Dibrugarh	3	5	2	.....	2	1
Shillong	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kohima	New school.					
AIDED—						
Habiganj	5	6	4	5	3	1
Sunámganj	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Barpeta	1	1	.....	1	2	.....
Shillong Mission	.....	3	1	.....	1	1
UNAIDED—						
National Institution	4	4	1	1	.....	.....
Murarichand	3	4	2	2	.....	.....
Sibságar (Bezbarua)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	68	69	33	31	19	4

APPENDIX F.

Lower Primary Schools for Boys.

Districts and subdivisions.		Boys' lower primaries.			
		1889-90.		1890-91.	
		Number of schools.	Pupils.	Number of schools.	Pupils.
Cachar ...	Silchar	97	2,581	100	2,685
	Hailákándi	70	1,661	73	1,692
Total		167	4,242	173	4,377
Sylhet ...	North Sylhet	120	4,571	122	4,521
	Sunámganj	83	2,279	88	2,288
	Habiganj	136	5,087	134	4,934
	South Sylhet	133	4,497	147	5,322
	Karimganj	94	2,919	81	2,518
Total		566	19,353	572	19,583
Goálpára ...	Dhubri...	66	1,474	72	1,628
	Goálpára	85	1,965	85	1,795
Total		151	3,439	157	3,423
Kámrúp ...	Gauháti	222	7,089	229	6,770
	Barpeta	64	1,732	68	1,745
Total		286	8,821	297	8,515
Darrang ...	Tezpur	52	1,364	53	1,382
	Mangaldai	65	1,486	66	1,416
Total		117	2,850	119	2,798
Nowgong...	Nowgong	159	4,915	164	4,708
Sibságar ...	Sibságar	76	2,238	77	2,299
	Jorhát	99	3,079	94	2,916
	Golághát	64	1,879	72	1,997
Total		239	7,196	243	7,212
Lakhimpur.	Dibrugarh	40	1,188	48	1,220
	North Lakhimpur	45	1,156	44	1,031
Total		85	2,344	92	2,251
Nága Hills		14	212	15	252
Khási and Jaintia Hills.	Khási Hills	85	2,064	86	1,926
	Jaintia „	41	763	43	724
Total		126	2,827	129	2,650
Gáro Hills		35	518	31	462
Grand total		1,945	56,747	1,992	56,231

APPENDIX G.

Detailed Classification of Scholars on the 31st of March according to Race or Creed.

Class of Institutions.	Grand total of Institutions.	Grand total of Scholars on the 31st of March.	Classification of Scholars on the 31st of March according to Race or Creed.																																					
			Europeans and Eurasians.	Native Christians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Kukis.	Mikirs.	Nepalese.	Nágas.	Manipuris.	Kacharis.	Khásiás.	Angamis.	Naghrs.	Gáros.	Madahis.	Saraniás.	Lalungs	Miris.	Khámptis.	Meches.	Brahmos	Lhotas	Jaintias.	Hajongs.	Kacha Nágas.	Bodias.	Coolies.	Hajoi.	Sikhs.	Abors.	Daflas	Deuries.	Jains.	Fakials.	Singphos.	Marans.	Donilas.	Others.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.																																								
For Boys.																																								
School Education, General — High Schools	18	3,325	7	35	2,770	418	..	..	..	17	16	8	.	..	..	..	..	-	..	2	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	46
School Education, General — Middle, English	44	3,935	..	262	2,717	654	..	3	..	2	16	3	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	1	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	231
School Education, General — Middle, Vernacular	46	2,992	..	17	2,430	491	..	..	..	..	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	2	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
For Girls.																																								
School Education, General — Middle Schools, Vernacular	2	57	..	..	49	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	110	10,309	7	314	7,966	1,601	..	3	..	19	42	31	2	..	5	..	..	..	4	3	4	20	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	3	..	..	277
PRIMARY SCHOOLS.																																								
For boys	2,094	60,119	..	1,696	41,952	10,204	52	251	2	54	1 633	829	2	..	164	189	95	65	180	351	11	108	..	..	21	..	..	..	111	50	1	..	..	25	..	..	..	1	1	2,071
„ girls	128	2,026	..	204	1,359	298	..	..	..	..	27	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	120
Total	2,222	62,145	.	1,900	43,311	10,500	52	251	2	54	1 660	837	2	..	164	189	95	65	180	351	11	108	8	..	21	..	..	..	115	50	1	..	..	25	..	..	..	1	1	2,191
School Education, Special — Schools for Special Instruction	14	287	..	111	106	2	1	2	..	6	3	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Training Schools for masters	2	44	..	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Training Schools for mistresses	2	19	..	..	17	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Law Schools	1	8	..	..	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Industrial Schools	4	183	17	..	37	129	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Schools	23	541	17	142	168	134	1	2	..	6	3	32	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Total	2,355	72,995	24	2,357	51,443	12,255	53	256	2	79	1,705	900	4	..	169	201	95	65	184	354	15	128	12	..	21	..	..	..	115	50	1	..	..	27	1	1	3	1	1	2,493
Total of Schools of Public Instruction																																								
Private Institutions. 1. Advanced, teaching — (a) Arabic or Persian	12	363	..	..	..	363	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Sanskrit	84	1,489	..	..	1,484	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Elementary, teaching a Vernacular only or mainly for boys	19	462	..	..	391	65	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Elementary, teaching the Kuran — „ boys	161	3,150	..	7.	..	3,1[illegible]	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Elementary, teaching the Kuran — „ girls	1	18	.	..	..	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other schools not conforming to departmental standards „ boys	8	307	..	..	294	1[illegible]	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	285	5,789	..	..	2,1[illegible]	3,605	..	6	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grand total	2,640	78,784	24	2,357	53,612	15,84[illegible]	53	262	2	79	1,710	900	4	..	169	201	95	65	184	354	15	128	12	.	21	..	..	..	115	50	1	..	..	27	1	1	3	1	1	2,493

Resolution on the Report on Public Instruction in Assam for the year 1890-91.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Assam in the General Department, No. 8611G., dated the 9th October 1891.

BL LIBRARY RIAT

Read—

The Report on Public Instruction in Assam for 1890-91.

RESOLUTION.

The office of Director of Public Instruction was filled throughout the year by Mr. J. Willson, who has prepared the present report. The report was due on the 5th July. It was received in manuscript on the 2nd July, and in print on the 31st July.

Inspection.

2. The inspecting staff of the Province, which was the same as in the previous year, consisted last year of four Deputy Inspectors and 24 Sub-Inspectors, there being three Deputy Inspectors in the Assam Valley and one in the Surma Valley, and each subdivision in the Province being provided with one Sub-Inspector with the exception of Gauháti, which has two Sub-Inspectors. The Nowgong district, which has no subdivisions, has two Sub-Inspectors and the Gáro Hills district one. The Chief Commissioner is glad to see that the Director reports favourably of the inspection work done by the Deputy Inspectors. They were on the average 203 days on tour and paid 185 visits to schools, being a slight improvement on the previous year. Census work interfered somewhat with the inspections by Sub-Inspectors, but these also managed an average of 232 days on tour, and paid 206 visits against 240 visits in the previous year. Out of 2,131 primary schools, upper and lower, only 145, or 6·80 per cent., were left unvisited, and out of 104 middle and normal schools, only five were left unvisited. The Chief Commissioner observes with regret the remarks made by the Director in paragraph 18 of the report regarding the manner in which the Local Board accounts are kept, and the little interest they show in educational matters. The Director is unable to give any information as to the number of times the education sub-committees of the Boards met during the year. He should insist upon this information being given in future educational reports submitted to him by the Deputy Inspectors; copies also of the minutes of the proceedings of these committees should be sent regularly to the Director, so that he may see what action Local Boards are taking in educational matters and check irregularities. With regard to what the Director states in this paragraph to be the educational functions delegated to Local Boards, the Chief Commissioner understands that the Local Boards under existing orders having nothing to say to the management of Government departmental schools of whatever class as distinct from schools which the Local Boards have themselves established, and which are also classed under the general head of Government schools. Nor have the Boards anything to say to the management of schools which they have not themselves established, and which they simply aid with grants. In regard to these latter, however, they are distinctly responsible for seeing that grants are not continued to schools, the private management of which is bad; to this extent therefore they have a power of control over the management of private aided schools. But it is quite impossible for Local Boards, without inspection, to determine whether schools, established by themselves or by private managers, are being properly managed or not. Most, if not all, of the inspection work is done by the Sub Inspector, and it is presumed that the results of his inspection of each school, whether established or only aided by a Board, are regularly reported to the Board for information, and that necessary action is taken upon them. Such inspections, however, are insufficient, and should certainly be supplemented by inspections by the Chairman of the Board, who in most cases is the district or subdivisional officer; and the Chief Commissioner would be glad if other members of the Boards would assist in this work. A record should also be kept in the Local Board office of all inspections made by each member of the Board, including the Chairman. If these instructions are acted up to, the Chief Commissioner would be in a better position than he is now to determine how far Local Boards take any interest in the educational work which the Government has delegated to them.

General summary.

3. In his Resolution on the Report of 1889-90, the Chief Commissioner regretted to notice a loss of 29 public schools and 732 pupils, as compared with the previous year. The present report shows a gain of 36 schools, but a further loss of 1,072 pupils in the year 1890-91. In view of these results, it is as well to notice what the educational progress of the Province has been in past years as gauged by the number of public schools and pupils. The following statement gives the figures from the year 1881-82:

Year.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils on 31st March.
1881-82	1,455	46,771
1882-83	1,502	50,281
1883-84	1,656	56,858
1884-85	1,800	58,755
1885-86	1,921	60,828
1886-87	2,045	64,976
1887-88	2,199	70,538
1888-89	2,349	74,899
1889-90	2,320	74,167
1890-91	2,356	73,095

These figures show that until the year 1889-90 there had been for many years past a steady increase both in schools and pupils. In that year there was a decrease in both schools and pupils, while in the past year there has been only a partial recovery towards the figures of 1888-89, the number of pupils being still below the number recorded in that year. This temporary check, the Chief Commissioner finds, was entirely due to a mismanagement on the part of the Local Boards of Sylhet in 1889-90, which caused a decrease of primary schools and pupils in that district. Effective measures have since been taken by the Chief Commissioner to guard against such mismanagement in future. This district, however, shows a further decrease in the past year of four schools and an insignificant increase of 99 pupils, the subdivision of Karimganj being responsible for a loss in the past year of 18 schools and 662 pupils, following on a loss in the previous year of 83 schools and 2,587 pupils. This unsatisfactory state of things in the Karimganj subdivision is not explained, unless the Chief Commissioner is to assume that it is due to continued mismanagement on the part of the Karimganj Local Board. In the Assam Valley the number of schools has gone on steadily increasing within the period above referred to. The number of pupils has also steadily increased until last year, when there was a decrease in this valley of 1,055 pupils, to which it is noticeable that every district has contributed, and chiefly the two districts of Kámrúp and Nowgong, which are suffering from *kála-azár*. The effect of this disease on the school rolls is well known, and is a sufficient explanation of the decrease of pupils in those two districts, but the explanations given of the decrease of pupils in the remaining four districts of the Assam Valley are altogether insufficient. It may be, however, that, as the Director states, the employment of Sub-Inspectors on census work, which necessarily interfered with their inspection work, may have seriously affected the roll numbers of schools on the 31st March owing to the practice of teachers in primary schools increasing their roll numbers in anticipation of inspection. In the current year this disturbing cause will no longer exist, and the Chief Commissioner looks for a material addition at the close of the year not only to the number of pupils on the school rolls at the end of the year but also in the monthly average strength and in the daily attendance throughout the Province.

It is satisfactory to notice that in the first ten years the number of boys attending schools has increased from 39,083 to 68,415, or 75 per cent., while the number of girls has increased from 1,588 to 4,680, or 194 per cent. The percentage of boys actually at school to boys of a school-going age has also risen from 10·61 to 16·31, and of girls from ·45 to 1·2 per cent.

Education.

4. The expenditure from all sources on education amounted to Rs. 5,00,475, being an increase of Rs. 5,922 on the expenditure of the previous year and of Rs. 42,559 on the expenditure of the year 1886-87. The four sources of expenditure are shown in paragraph 6 of the report to be (1) Provincial, (2) Local Boards, (3) Municipal, and (4) other sources. There has been a slight increase in what is called the Provincial expenditure, owing chiefly to increased expenditure on Government high schools, which appears from paragraph 20 of the report to have been due to an increase of expenditure on repairs to buildings and to a revision of the Shillong High School establishment at an enhanced cost. The Local Board expenditure was about the same as last year, but includes expenditure from Provincial Funds, seeing that they depend for their expenditure largely on the Provincial grants made to them in each year. Taking Provincial and Local Boards expenditure

together, it appears that, including expenditure on public works buildings, Rs. 1,922 more were spent on education than was spent in the previous year, while the municipal expenditure decreased by Rs. 1,004. The decrease in municipal expenditure on education would, at first sight, appear to be not very satisfactory, but is sufficiently explained in paragraph 12 of the report. There has been an increase of expenditure from "Other sources," amounting to Rs. 5,004 and, as compared with the year 1886-87, the increase amounts to Rs. 22,326. This increase is due almost entirely to increases in receipts from fees, subscriptions, and contributions from the Welsh Mission to education in the Khási and Jaintia Hills as reported by the Mission to the department, and is a satisfactory feature of the report. Omitting what is called indirect expenditure on scholarships, direction, inspection, buildings, &c., the direct expenditure on each class of schools is shown in paragraph 10 of the report, and the general result, taking provincial and local (including municipal) expenditure together, but omitting expenditure from other sources, is that 30·9 per cent. of the total expenditure was spent on secondary schools, 58·9 per cent. on primary schools, and 10·1 per cent. on special schools. The Chief Commissioner would gladly see the percentage of direct expenditure on primary schools much larger than it is at present, while secondary schools should be made more self-supporting than they are. The report is silent upon the subject of the fees levied in secondary schools, and Mr. Ward would be glad if the Director would submit a special report on this subject, showing what the fees now are as levied in each class of schools in the Province, comparing them with the fees levied in Bengal, Burma, the North-Western Provinces, and the Central Provinces, and showing when and to what extent they were last revised.

Discipline and moral training.

5. In paragraph 14 of the report, the Director remarks on the absence of proper discipline and of a high tone of morality in schools both among scholars and teachers. The tendency on the part of school boys to show actual disrespect to their teachers and to inspecting officers while in school, as well as the absence of proper and gentlemanly respect towards their superiors and to Government officials out of school, has, Mr. Ward fears, been for many years a marked feature in Assamese schools. That discipline is, as the Director remarks, better in departmental schools than elsewhere, is only what one has a right to expect, and the Chief Commissioner would form a very unfavourable opinion of any head master of any departmental school, of whatever class, who could not teach his pupils proper manners both in and out of school. In the case of aided schools the only remedy for the existing state of things is perhaps to withhold from, or to reduce, grants-in-aid in any schools which are conspicuous for absence of discipline or want of moral tone or proper respect in either teachers or pupils. As to the practice of copying at examinations, this is an evil which probably exists all over the world, and the only remedy is severe punishment on detection. In Burma the rule laid down by the Educational Syndicate is that any candidate at an examination caught copying shall be debarred for two years from presenting himself at any examination conducted by the Syndicate, and the Chief Commissioner is inclined to think that a similar rule might be adopted in Assam with advantage. Revised instructions for the guidance of teachers, and relating to school discipline, have recently been issued by the Director with the approval of the Chief Commissioner, and it is to be hoped that these will materially assist teachers in maintaining proper discipline and raising the moral tone of the schools in their charge.

High schools.

6. The number of high schools in the Province of all classes, Government, aided, and unaided, was the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 18; of these, 11 are Government institutions, that is to say, are under Government management, and 7 are under private management, 4 out of these 7 receiving aid from Local Boards or Municipalities, and 3 being unaided. Neither the Local Boards nor Municipalities have anything to say to the management of high schools aided by them. The total number of pupils on the rolls of these 18 schools at the close of the year was 3,325, against 3,335 in the previous year, while the average daily attendance was 2,536, against 2,542 in 1889-90. Five years ago, *viz.*, in 1885-86, the corresponding figures were 14 schools, 3,012 pupils on the rolls, and average daily attendance 2,373, so that there has been distinct progress within the last five years in imparting high education to the Province. The slight falling off last year in the number of pupils on the rolls and in average attendance has occurred entirely in Government and aided schools, and is due chiefly to the prevalence of *kála-azár* in Gauháti and Nowgong and to disturbances on the Cachar frontier. In each of the three unaided schools of Sylhet and Sibságar there has been an increase both of pupils and daily average attendance. In the Government schools the total cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 29-12-7, which is considerably in excess of the cost (Rs. 27-10-10) of the previous year, while the cost to Government in these schools was Rs. 13-9-1, against Rs. 11-10-4 per pupil in the previous year. In aided high schools the net cost

of each pupil to Government was Rs. 9-2-3, against Rs. 8-10-2 in the previous year. On Government high schools Government incurred a net expenditure of Rs. 3,473 in excess of its expenditure in the previous year, the result being that it contributed 45·55 per cent. to the total cost of these schools. In aided schools the Government contribution was only 32·43 per cent.

The corresponding figures for the previous five years are shown below:

	Government schools.	Aided schools.
1885-86	41·98	29·50
1886-87	47·34	28·83
1887-88	45·97	31·01
1888-89	45·98	30·75
1889-90	41·66	30·57

Thus the Government share last year of the cost of educating pupils in our high schools not only exceeded the share contributed by it in 1889-90, but is also in excess of its contribution five years ago. The Chief Commissioner is not altogether satisfied with these results, for which the revised establishment of the Shillong High School and an increase in the cost of annual repairs, accompanied by a decrease in fees, appear to have been mainly responsible. The Jorhát High School is the only school in the Province that is said to be self supporting, but the Chief Commissioner finds that he has been asked to sanction from Provincial revenues an expenditure of Rs. 20,000 for the erection of an entirely new building for this school. The Barpeta Aided High School is said to be in a most unsatisfactory condition. This school receives no aid directly from Provincial Funds, but received a contribution last year of Rs. 1,503 from the Local Board and Rs. 200 from the Municipality. Its average daily attendance last year was 62 only, and the average total cost of educating each pupil was no less than Rs. 37-7-3, a sum considerably in excess of that of any school in the plains districts. The Chief Commissioner would be glad to see the Local Board and the Municipality withdraw their aid altogether from this school and give their money to more useful schools of the primary or middle stage.

The following statement shows the number of pupils who have passed the Entrance Examination in the past ten years:

Year.	Presented.	Passed.	Percentage of passed.
1881	50	24	48
1882	62	28	45·1
1883	90	46	51·1
*	...	...	.....
1885	109	40	36·7
1886	99	39	39·4
1887	137	94	68·7
1888	168	87	51·7
1889	170	61	35·8
1890	156	107	68·
1891	162	68	41

* No examination in 1884.

The report does not distinguish the figures of the Assam Valley from those of the Surma Valley and Hill districts, which it should do in future, as it is interesting to note separately the progress in higher education made in these three portions of the Province the conditions in which are so entirely distinct. The following statement supplies this information:

Year.	Number of high schools of all classes.			Candidates presented at Entrance Examination.			Candidates passed.		
	Assam Valley.	Surma Valley.	Hill districts.	Assam Valley.	Surma Valley.	Hill districts.	Assam Valley.	Surma Valley.	Hill districts.
1881 ...	7	3	1	29	20	1	14	10	.....
1882 ...	8	3	.....	35	27	.....	16	12	.....
1883 ...	8	4	1	41	47	2	19	27	.....
1884 ...	8	4	1	No examinations.					
1885 ...	8	4	1	56	52	1	18	21	1
1886 ...	8	4	2	43	55	1	18	21	.....
1887 ...	8	6	2	54	77	6	35	54	5
1888 ...	8	6	3	59	100	9	34	51	2
1889 ...	8	6	3	70	78	22	24	37	.....
1890 ...	9	6	3	60	81	15	44	55	8
1891 ...	9	6	3	62	93	7	29	34	5

These figures show that in each of three main divisions of the Province the number of successful candidates at the Entrance Examination was considerably below the number of the previous year, although each division, with the exception of the hills districts, sent up more candidates. In the Surma Valley the number of successful candidates was less than in any previous year since 1886, while in the Assam Valley during the same period, the year 1889 is the only year which saw fewer candidates passed than last year. It is not stated in the report that the papers set at the last Entrance Examination were unusually difficult, and, bearing in mind that there has been an increase. though not a very material increase, in the number of pupils on high school rolls during the period referred to, the only conclusion that he can draw from the figures is that the quality of the education imparted in the high schools of the Province has not made much, if any, progress in the past five years. The attention of the Director is drawn to this matter. The results above shown are probably due to defective teaching, and, if this is so, the Director ought to take necessary action to improve the existing staff of teachers or the existing methods of imparting instruction in these schools. In future reports he should also note in what subjects candidates at the Entrance Examination have chiefly failed.

Appendix E to the report is interesting, as showing how many students from the Province are prosecuting their studies after having passed the Entrance Examination. The number of those who passed the F. A. Examination of 1891 was 33, but of these no less than 23 came from the Surma Valley, while 9 came from the Assam Valley and only 1 from the Hills (Shillong Mission School). Of the 23 who passed from the Surma Valley, the Sylhet district contributed 22. At the B. A. Examination of 1891 only 4 Assam students passed, of whom 2 came from the Sylhet district, 1 from Dibrugarh, and 1 from the Shillong Mission School. These figures do not compare favourably with the corresponding figures of the year 1889. In that year the Chief Commissioner finds that 17 Assam students passed the F. A. and 7 the B. A. Examination, the corresponding figures for 1890 being 37 and 7.

Middle English schools.

7. There has been no change in the number of departmental and aided middle English schools. Of the former, there are only two in the Province, and of the latter 32. The two departmental schools at Cachar and Goálpára are under Government management; the Goálpára school receives aid from the Municipality, while the net expenditure on the Cachar school after deducting fees is entirely met by Government. The Chief Commissioner does not quite understand why the Goálpára Municipality should be called upon to aid a departmental school, and would like the Director to report upon this. The total Provincial expenditure on these two schools shows a satisfactory decrease on the previous year, the receipts covering 36 per cent. of the total expenditure, against 27 per cent. in the preceding year.

The aided middle English schools were, with the exception of the school at Manipur, by General Department Resolution No. 1912, dated the 10th May 1882, placed under the management of the Local Boards from whose funds they receive their grants-in-aid on certain conditions. These schools are, however, shown in Table III appended to the report as under private management. This seems to require explanation. If Local Boards are not responsible for the management of these schools, the Government Resolution should be amended so as to bring it into accord with actual facts. With one exception apparently (Sylhet), Municipalities do not aid this class of schools. There was a small increase in receipts from fees owing to an increase in the number of pupils on the rolls, and a corresponding decrease in the total expenditure on grants from Provincial, Local Board, and Municipal Funds, which amounted altogether to Rs. 13,333, against an expenditure of Rs. 13,682 in the previous year. Nearly 60 per cent. of the total expenditure on the aided schools was covered by receipts from fees, subscriptions, &c. The number of pupils who passed from middle English schools the middle English and middle Vernacular standards was 59 and 67, respectively, and the Chief Commissioner is glad to find from the following statement that steady progress has been made since the year 1886-87 in passing candidates for the English standard. Candidates who presented themselves for the middle English standard and failed only in the English paper, and all successful candidates who went up from these schools for the middle Vernacular standard only, are shown in this statement as having passed the Vernacular standard:

Year.	Number of middle English schools.	Number of examinees.		Number passed in	
		In English.	In Vernacular.	English.	Vernacular.
1885-86	43	55	44	47	40
1886-87	45	66	67	28	44
1887-88	45	71	81	43	66
1888-89	46	93	83	52	67
1889-90	45	75	66	58	55
1890-91	45	88	78	59	67

Middle Vernacular schools.

8. The main point to be noticed in connection with the middle Vernacular schools of the Province is that there were at the close of the past year 46 schools of this class (against 48 in the previous year) divided into 14 departmental schools under Government management, 29 aided schools placed by the Government Resolution of May 1882 under the management of Local Boards, but actually under private management, and three unaided schools under private management. One departmental school has been abolished during the year in Cachar, where it was found not to be wanted; the number of aided schools was the same as in the previous year, but one aided school in Sylhet was closed, while an unaided school in the Sibságar district was transferred to the aided list. In the Government schools there was a loss of pupils, which is not altogether very satisfactorily explained. The Provincial expenditure fell to Rs. 7,986 from Rs. 8,538 in the preceding year, and, notwithstanding the loss of one school, there was an increase in receipts from fees, the result being that the receipts covered 38·1 per cent. of the expenditure, against 36·4 per cent. in the preceding year. To aided schools the Local Boards contributed grants amounting to Rs. 6,044, against Rs. 6,289 in the preceding year, while the only Municipality that aided this class of schools was the Gauháti Municipality. Out of the total expenditure on these aided schools, 57·6 per cent. was covered by receipts, against 56·8 per cent. in the previous year.

The following statement gives the result of the middle Vernacular examination for the past year:

Year.	Number of middle Vernacular schools.	Number of examinees.	Number passed.
1885-86	43	156	90
1886-87	47	161	74
1887-88	45	177	135
1888-89	48	195	121
1889-90	48	198	129
1890-91	46	232	137

The general conclusion to be drawn from these figures is that the middle Vernacular schools of the Province have not made any progress to speak of in the past four years in the direction of passing pupils by the middle Vernacular standard.

Primary boys' schools.

9. The primary boys' schools of the Province are shown in Table III appended to the report, read with paragraph 36 of the report, as divided into four classes: (1) Lower primary under Government management; (2) lower and upper primary under the management of Local Boards and Municipalities; (3) aided schools, lower and upper, under private management; and (4) unaided schools also under private management. There were altogether 2,094 primary boys' schools of all classes at the close of the past year, containing 60,119 pupils, against 2,044 schools with a roll of 60,552 pupils at the close of the previous year. There has been an increase in the number of both upper and lower schools and an increase in the number of pupils in the upper primary stage, but a decrease of 516 boys in lower primary schools, due entirely to Local Board, Municipal, and unaided private schools. The number of aided schools, both upper and lower, shows a considerable increase with a corresponding increase in pupils, whereas unaided schools and, as a necessary consequence, the number of pupils in such schools, have decreased considerably, the decrease, however, being due apparently to transfers made in the Sylhet district to the aided list of lower primary schools.

Upper primary boys' schools.

10. There were 102 upper primary boys' schools in the Province at the close of the past year, being an increase of 3 schools on the previous year. The Chief Commissioner notices that there are no departmental upper primary boys' schools in the Province, and that there are only 3 schools under the management of Local Boards or Municipalities, *viz.*, 2 at Sunámganj in the Sylhet district under the management of the Local Board, and one in Gauháti under the management of the Municipality. It is noticeable that the total cost of educating pupils in the two Sylhet schools is nearly double the cost in the school at Gauháti. The aided schools under private management all derive their aid from Local Boards; no Municipality aids any boys' school of the upper primary class. The total amount of aid given last year to this class of schools by Local Boards was Rs. 10,853 given to 97 schools, against Rs. 10,396 given to 91 schools in the previous year, while the receipts from other sources, such as fees, subscriptions, &c., amounted altogether to Rs. 9,714, against Rs. 8,851, and it is satisfactory to notice that these receipts covered 47·2 per cent. of the total expenditure on aided schools against from 44 to 46·3 in the preceding four years, whereas in the three Local Board and Municipal schools above noticed only 32 per cent. of their total cost was covered by receipts, against 28 per cent. in 1889-90.

The Chief Commissioner doubts the necessity of continuing the three schools above referred to as being under Local Board or Municipal management. It seems to Mr. Ward that if Sunámganj and Gauháti really want these schools, private managers might be found to take them up, and they might be added to the aided class. If not really wanted, it is not very clear why Local Boards or Municipalities should establish and support them. It is also not clear why there are no departmental schools of the upper primary class in the Province or private aided schools of this class aided by Government. Has no demand for such schools yet arisen in any of the hills districts? The Chief Commissioner further notices that the number of upper primary schools in the Province at the close of the past year (102) is less than the number (109) open in 1886-87. This is not a very satisfactory sign, as one would naturally suppose that, with the spread of primary education in the Province, the number of these schools would increase.

Lower primary boys' schools.

11. The number of lower primary boys' schools in the Province of all classes was 1,992 at the close of the past year. The number of these schools has been steadily increasing for several years past, which is due almost entirely to the action of the Local Boards of Sylhet. The increase has been chiefly under the head of schools aided by Local Boards and Municipalities, the number of which has risen from 255 in the year 1885-86 to 727 at the close of the past year.

At the close of last year there were 29 departmental schools of the lower primary class, which cost the Government Rs. 2,033. Of these, 21 are in the plains districts, and 18 of these 21 are under the Kachari Mission in the Darrang district, the remaining three being attached to normal schools. The Director is requested to report why the Kachari Mission schools should be treated as Government schools rather than mission schools under mission management aided by Local Boards. The Chief Commissioner observes that the cost per pupil of these schools considerably exceeds the cost in local and private aided schools.

There were 1,121 lower primary schools at the close of the year, against 1,137 in the previous year, which are classified as Local Board or Municipal Schools under Board or Municipal management while the number of private schools of this class, which are only aided by Local Boards and Municipalities was 560 against 446. Omitting schools in hills districts, which are aided by Government, and where the cost is necessarily high, it would appear, from the statement given in paragraph 39 of the report, that the average cost of educating each pupil in private lower primary schools aided by Local Boards or Municipalities is much below the cost in Local Board and Municipal schools, and this goes to show how desirable it is to reduce the number of local schools as much as possible, and make them over to private management and the aided list wherever this can be done. The expenditure of Boards and Municipalities on these two classes of schools during the past six years is not without interest and is given below, the figures being taken from the reports of past years:

Year.	Amount spent by Local Boards and Municipalities on lower primary schools					
	Under Local Board or Municipal management.			Under private management (aided).		
	Number of schools.	Local Board expenditure.	Municipal expenditure.	Number of schools.*	Local Board expenditure.	Municipal expenditure.
		Rs.	Rs		Rs.	Rs.
1885-86	1,170	69,722	1,042	122	1,966	104
1886-87	1,225	74,513	1,367	188	3,780	85
1887-88	1,224	76,333	1,132	252	6,675	91
1888-89	1,243	76,529	1,362	369	11,783	191
1889-90	1,137	72,748	1,556	446	20,272	197
1890-91	1,121	68,413	1,613	560	22,518	120

* Excluding hill schools, which are aided only by Government.

This statement shows that, while the Local Board expenditure on schools under their management has remained stationary, their expenditure on private aided schools has been steadily and rapidly increasing in the past six years with the increase in

schools. This is as it should be. The total expenditure by Local Boards and Municipalities on both classes of schools has increased from Rs. 72,834 in 1885-86 to Rs. 92,664 in the past year; to this expenditure the Municipalities of the Province contribute but little, owing to their slender resources and the demands made upon them by sanitary requirements. The total municipal contribution last year amounted to only Rs. 1,733, against Rs. 1,753 in the previous year.

In addition to the lower primary boys' schools in the Province, either departmental or managed or aided by Local Boards or Municipalities, there are lower primary schools which are aided entirely from Provincial Funds. Such are the hill schools under the management of the different missions where Local Boards do not exist, and also some plains schools in the Goálpára district, also under mission management, along the borders of the Gáro Hills. There seems to Mr. Ward to be no reason why these plains schools should not receive their aid from Local Boards in the same way as similar schools in the Kámrúp district are so aided. At present the system under which aid is given in this Province partly by Government and partly by Local Boards and Municipalities to aided lower primary schools under private management is not very intelligible, and it would seem preferable to lay down a general rule that, in the plains districts, where Local Boards exist, such aid should be given by the Boards, supplemented by such little help as Municipalities can afford, while in the hills districts, where there are no Local Boards, all aid will be granted from Provincial Funds. The following statement of expenditure in the past six years from Provincial Funds on aided lower primary schools in the hill districts and in Goálpára may be noted. The figures showing the number of schools in each year are only approximately correct, owing to mission schools not sending in proper returns of their schools every year as they should be required to do:

Year.	Schools.	Expenditure.
		Rs.
1885-86	139	7,481
1886-87	144	7,142
1887-88	150	6,946
1888-89	157	7,411
1889-90	176	7,873
1890-91	180	7,429

Of this aid, the Welsh Mission schools in the Khási and Jaintia Hills, which were reported last year to number 129, received the lion's share, the total expenditure on them from Provincial Funds amounting to Rs. 5,582 against Rs. 5,517 in the previous year. The report gives no information regarding the quality of the teaching given in these schools. In the report for 1889-90 it was stated that the standard of teaching was still very low, and that little, if any, improvement had been made. Similarly, the schools in the Gáro Hills under the American Mission were spoken of as very backward, but it was said that the mission was taking steps to improve the normal school at Tura and to see that more practical education was given in the village schools. Nothing, however, is said in the present report as to whether any progress had been made in this direction in the past year. The Director should in future give more information regarding these hill schools under mission management with a view to its being determined how far the Government is justified in continuing to aid them to the extent it does with Provincial Funds. The only satisfactory feature that Mr. Ward notices about the Khási and Jaintia Hills schools is that, while the total expenditure upon them last year is put down at Rs. 21,525, it is stated that out of this sum no less than Rs. 15,943 was met from private subscriptions and endowments. It seems to the Chief Commissioner a pity, if these figures are correct, that so large an expenditure is productive of so little result from an educational point of view.

Primary examinations

12. It is a noticeable fact that, notwithstanding the increase in primary boys' schools in the past six years, the number of pupils who pass the upper primary and lower primary examinations shows no sign of increase. This is clear from the figures of the following statement:

Year	Number of schools.		Number of pupils who passed	
	Upper primary.	Lower primary.	Upper primary examination.	Lower primary examination.
1885-86	99	1,525	234	1,198
1886-87	109	1,640	196	1,246
1887-88	106	1,764	181	926
1888-89	106	1,925	128	1,356
1889-90	99	1,945	132	969
1890-91	102	1,992	124	967

These figures show that, while the number of upper primary boys' schools has remained stationary for the past six years, the number of pupils who have passed the upper primary standard last year is little more than half the number that passed six years ago, while, with an increase of lower primary schools within the same period from 1,525 to 1,992, there has been a decrease of successful candidates at the lower primary examination from 1,198 to 967. The Chief Commissioner has not been able to find in the reports of past years any satisfactory explanation of these results of the upper primary examinations; as regards lower primary examinations, the explanation offered by the Director would appear to be that there is a tendency on the part of those who set the examination papers to annually raise the standard of those papers; but from enquiries that the Chief Commissioner has made this explanation seems scarcely to represent the true facts of the case. It would appear that prior to the year 1887-88 each district used to have a separate set of examination papers which were set by examiners appointed by the Local Boards. The result of this system was that, in most districts, papers were set which were far below what should be recognised as the standard in this Province, and the number of successful candidates was necessarily large In 1887-88, however, one set of papers was set for the whole Province by examiners appointed by the Director of Public Instruction, and the standard of these was made considerably higher than what candidates had previously been accustomed to. The result naturally was a much larger number of failures at the examination. In 1888-89 the old system was reverted to, and again the number of successful candidates was large. In 1889-90 the Deputy Inspectors set the papers for their respective divisions, after being instructed by the Director of Public Instruction to follow the standard of the papers set in 1887-88, and the papers so set were compared before issue, so as to secure, as far as possible, uniformity of standard. The same system was followed in 1890-91. This explains the comparatively few successes at the examinations held in the past two years; consequently no inferences can be drawn from the examination results of the past six years as to the quality of the education imparted in the lower primary schools of the Province. The Chief Commissioner, however, wishes it to be clearly understood that, when once the standards of examination have been fixed, examiners should not be permitted by the Director to set papers in those standards of yearly increasing difficulty. The result of giving examiners too free a hand in such a matter can only bring about unfavourable results, and cause discouragement to both master and pupil. The Chief Commissioner doubts much whether it is desirable to have paper examinations at all in the primary standards in Assam. In Burma paper examinations only commence at the seventh, or middle, standard of examination, all examinations in the first six standards, comprising the primary stages and the commencement of the middle stage of a pupil's education, being conducted *vivâ voce* by the Inspectors, Deputy Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors of Schools. The Chief Commissioner would be glad to have the opinion of the Director on this point.

Normal schools

13. There were 14 normal boys' schools in the Province at the close of the past year, against 13 at the close of the previous year. The Chief Commissioner is altogether unable to understand the classification of these schools as given in paragraph 44 of the report, and he has reason to believe that the classification is misleading. There is no need to have any Local Board or Municipal normal schools under local management. It is sufficient to divide all such schools into four heads, (1) Departmental, under departmental management, (2) Private, under private management, but aided by Local Boards, or Municipalities, or both, either by grants made to the school, or by stipends given to the pupils, or by both, (3) Private unaided, (4) Training classes attached to middle schools. With some clear and intelligible classification of this kind, it will be easier than it is at present to see where the responsibility lies for the very poor results which these normal schools have shown evidently for some years past, and it is necessary to fix responsibility somewhere if we are to look for improvement. All that the Chief Commissioner can say at present on a review of the Director's reports of the past five years is that the majority of the Government normal schools have proved a failure, and, as regards aided schools, whether managed by missions or others, there is really no information whether they are doing any good whatever. These are but poor results for an annual expenditure of over Rs. 13,000 from Provincial and of about Rs. 5,000 from Local Board Funds, and the Chief Commissioner must request the Director of Public Instruction to look into the matter, and see if something cannot be done to improve the existing state of things. The report shows that some steps have already been taken in this direction by reducing the fixed pay of teachers, and giving them result grants, and the Chief Commissioner hopes that this may do some good. It is to the departmental schools, the cost of which should be met entirely from Provincial

funds, and the stipends given by the Local Boards and Municipalities to the *gurus* they may select to send to them, that the Chief Commissioner must look for some years to come for turning out a qualified staff of teachers, and for the proper management of these schools the department should be solely responsible. Private aided and unaided schools may also do much in this direction; but, unless they can show better results than they do now, it is doubtful whether local bodies are justified in continuing to aid them.

Female education.

14. Judging from the number of schools and pupils, it would appear that female education has been steadily declining for several years. There were at the close of late year only two middle Vernacular schools in the Province, one at Dhubri and the other at Dibrugarh, and both are aided partly by the Local Board and partly by the Municipality. There are no upper primary female schools, and the lower primary schools are of four classes: (1) Government, (2) Local Board and Municipal, (3) aided, (4) unaided. There is only one Government school, at Tezpur, which is really under mission management; there are 99 Board and Municipal schools under local management; there are 17 aided schools, aided by Government as well as by Boards and Municipalities; and there are 11 unaided schools. Most of the aided schools are in the Khási and Jaintia Hills and receive aid almost entirely from Government. There are fewer girls' schools of all classes and pupils than there were six years ago. Out of the 99 Board schools, no less than 66 are in the Sylhet district, and cost the Sylhet Boards Rs. 2,637 out of a total of expenditure on similar schools by all the Boards in the Province taken together of Rs. 4,143. These figures seem scarcely to bear out the statement made in the report that the Sylhet Boards are not sufficiently liberal in their expenditure on female education.

The total number of girls who passed the lower primary examination last year was 18, against 20 in the previous year, and 10 in the year 1888-89, thus showing that the reduction of schools that has taken place of late years has not affected examination results. There is, therefore, perhaps no great cause for regretting the loss of female schools and pupils, the probability being that Local Boards opened schools in the first instance too rapidly without due regard to the quality of the teaching that could be imparted in them.

The Director expresses regret that none of the female schools in the Surma Valley sent up any candidates for the lower primary examination. The Chief Commissioner observes that the same thing happened in the three previous years. Cachar does not appear to have sent up a single candidate to this examination since 1884-85, while Sylhet has only sent up two since the year 1885-86. The difficulty lies probably in getting parents to allow their girls to appear at a public examination. Perhaps this difficulty might to a great extent be overcome if arrangements could be made for having a female superintendent to preside at the examinations and if the examination of female candidates were held in a separate room. The Local Boards, who have established, and are therefore responsible for the management of, the majority of these schools, might be consulted on this point. It certainly seems doubtful whether Local Boards should go on year after year spending money on female schools without being able to send up a single candidate for the lower primary examination.

By order of the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

F. C. DAUKES,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam

A. S. Press (General) No. 80—300+30—12-10-91.